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AN

Hiſtorical Dictionary of Love.

CONTAINING

INTERESTING ANECDOTES

OF

DISTINGUISHED PERSONS,

EMINENT FOR THEIR VIRTUES,

OR THEIR VICES.

FROM THE

CREATION OF THE WORLD TO THE PRESENT TIME.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

VOLUME I.

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HISTORICAL ANECDOTES OF LOVE.

A.

ABAILARD.

NATURE had been, to extremes, laviſh of her favours on Abailard, who was born in the borough of Palais in Britanny, three leagues from Nantes. With a manly though agreeable figure he united a ſharp and penetrating genius. He was the diſciple of Roſſelin and of William de Champeaux, and excelled by far his maſters. His reputation extended ſo far that it drew the attention of St. Bernard, who, they ſay, became jealous of it, and made him undergo a great many humiliations by getting ſome of his writings con-

demned. But theſe ſorrows, which he bore as a philoſopher, were nothing if we compare them with thoſe that love occaſioned to him.

At the time when he had a numerous ſchool at Paris, he got acquainted with Heloiſa, the niece of a canon of that metropolis, whoſe name was Fulbert. She was in poſſeſſion of every charm fit for ſeducing; youth, beauty, a lively and delicate mind, and eſpecially one of the moſt tender ſouls. She pleaſed Abailard, who made the ſame impreſſion upon her; and, that they might have a better opportunity of ſeeing one another without conſtraint, the doctor propoſed Fulbert to teach his niece gratis. The uncle was avaricious; he accepted the propoſal. It was in giving thus his leſſons to the bewitching Heloiſa, and very likely in receiving ſome from her lips likewiſe, that, in the midſt of pleaſures, Abailard met the ſource of thoſe misfortunes which afterwards embittered ſo much the remainder of his days.

It was not long before Heloiſa perceived ſhe had too tenderly loved Abailard; and, however careful ſhe had been to hide it, her uncle ſoon found the ſame alſo. Abailard withdrew; and Heloiſa went to Britanny, where at a ſiſter's of her's, ſhe was delivered of the fruit of her love. Abailard was very much intereſted in having

that

that ſtory burried in the moſt profound ſecrecy; for, by its being divulged, he riſked nothing leſs than to loſe his place, his credit and his reputation. Fulbert knew that very well; and took advantage of that circumſtance to compel him to marry his niece. The doctor had no objection to it, for he loved Heloiſa: beſides, he was very ſenſible of the obligation he was in to repair her honour; but he inſiſted upon his marriage not being declared, on account of the prejudice, then ſtrongly prevailing, that a married man could not teach youth, nor keep a ſchool; a prejudice ſtill exiſtent in our days and ruling the univerſity of Paris, where the ſeveral profeſſors of that body of learning are under neceſſity of being bachelors, in order to hold their chairs. What muſt appear very ſtrange in this affair is, that the greateſt oppoſition to that union came from Heloiſa herſelf. She made uſe of all her wit to diſſuade Abailard from it; and the reaſons ſhe gave for it, and which we read in her letters, prove the high and refined delicacy of her love. But the uncle was inflexible; he inſiſted upon the marriage taking place, and promiſed that he would keep the ſecret.

THERE is room to think that the canon was in love with his niece; for, otherwiſe, it would be difficult to explain how he came to determine

upon a piece of vengeance ſo cruel and ſo deliberately conſidered as that he exerciſed on Abailard. Firſt, he did not keep his word; and, ſoon after, no one was ignorant of the adventure of the doctor. In that circumſtance, Heloiſa, by the advice of her huſband, retired at the nunnery of Argenteuil. Little did ſhe ſuſpect that this retirement was going to occaſion the moſt barbarous of treatments to be exerciſed againſt that dear huſband. A ſet of villains, headed by Fulbert himſelf, having entered Abailard's room during the night, they put him out of ſituation of ever being able to renew his guilts. This laſt event, which the public was ſoon informed of, did not permit Abailard to remain any longer in Paris: he retired among the monks of St. Denis, whence he ſucceſſively went into other houſes of that order.

While Abailard thus dragged about from convent to convent his ſad and melancholy being, and ſtrove in vain againſt the credit and miracles of St. Bernard, the diſconſolate Heloiſa, more unfortunate ſtill than he, becauſe ſhe felt more keenly, ſaw herſelf obliged to quit the convent of Argenteuil, which, on account of the ſcandal given by the nuns, and of their bad behaviour, was entirely deſtroyed: and, always directed by her huſband, who had however but the name of it,

it, ſhe fixed herſelf in an oratory, of the name of Paraclet, which had been erected by her dear Abailard, near Nogent-ſur-ſeine, and there became the firſt abbeſs of a monaſtery of girls who came to ſettle in that retreat. She maintained with due dignity and decorum the place ſhe occupied: her behaviour inſpired piety, but her heart burnt with the moſt ardent love. In vain Abailard endeavoured in his letters to make her forget him, Heloiſa had him inceſſantly preſent to her mind; and, while her mouth vowed to God to renounce her paſſion, her heart belied her. She buried in the Paraclet her dear Abailard; and, though ſhe ſurvived him twenty years, her paſſion ended only with her life. To judge now how much theſe two perſons loved each other, it is reported, that, when the tomb of Abailard was opened to place in it the body of Heloiſa, Abailard ſtretched his arms towards her to receive her, and claſped them again very cloſely over her to embrace her.—There is a place at *Moulinjoly* whence you can diſcover the monaſtery of Argenteuil, and where you read on a ſtone the following lines.

Ces toits élevés dans les airs,
Couvrent l'aſyle où vêcut Héloiſe:
Cœurs tendres, ſoupirez & retenez ces vers;
Elle honora l'amour;
L'amour l'immortaliſe.

The meaning of which, conſidered in each line, runs thus:

Theſe roofs yonder you ſee ſurging above,
Shade the retreat where dwelt Heloiſa:
Sigh, tender hearts, and remember theſe lines;
She, when living, was an honour to love;
And, now ſhe's dead, love makes her immortal.

Abailard died in 1143.

ABAFFI.

MICHEL II. ABAFFI, or APAFFI, was yet but thirteen years old when his father, by his death, left him the principality of Tranſylvany, accompanied with many incumbrances. Michel I. had drawn upon him the ill will of the Turkiſh emperor by his refuſal of declaring himſelf againſt the empire. To be revenged of this, the Turk gave Tranſylvany, or at leaſt the title of Prince of Tranſylvany, to one Tekeli an Hungarian count. This new prince beat the troops of young Abaffi, and ſeized on many of his places. Some ſuccours, ſent by the emperor, ſoon changed however the face of affairs; and Tekeli, beaten in his turn, was obliged to relinquiſh all his conqueſts. A woman, and perhaps might we ſay love, came and ſtripped Abaffi of his principality. He married, againſt the conſent of the

the emperor, Catharina, the daughter of George Bethlen, count of Tranſylvany. And the emperor, who perhaps coveted in his heart the poſſeſſion of that principality, took that pretence to render himſelf maſter of it. Be it however it will, the fact is, that Abaffi being ſent for to Vienna, was imprudent enough to obey the ſummons, and weak enough, when he was there, to give up his rights and pretenſions to the principality of Tranſylvany for an annuity of fifteen thouſand florins and the title of prince of the holy empire. He died in 1713.

ABASSA.

ABASSA was ſiſter to Aaron, or Haronn, Raſchid, the fifth califf of the race of the Abaſſides. This princeſs having had an opportunity to ſee Giaffar, a favourite of the prince, became in love with him. We may eaſily conceive how happy the favourite was when he found he pleaſed his maſter's ſiſter. The great point was then to get that mutual paſſion approved by the califf, and to obtain his conſent for their union. Abaſſa, more intereſted than any one to ſucceed in the project, becauſe the lot of a Turkiſh princeſs, always ſhut up and deprived of the liberty of ſeeing a man, is

not a very agreeable one, obtained through her steady prayers and solicitations to soften her brother's rigidity into a consent of granting her the object of her wishes. But, in consenting to unite the two lovers, the califf enjoined them a very hard condition; he forbade them ever to lay together. This was nearly the same as forbidding them to marry. The princess thought her brother could not resist her prayers. It was a great error; Aaron was inflexible. In this sad situation Abassa acted the second Eve, and succeeded in making Giaffar eat some of the forbidden fruit. Hence sprung a boy, who was secretly sent to Mecca to be brought up. Unluckily the secret was badly kept, and the califf being informed of it disgraced his favourite (whom he had even put to death) and expelled from his palace the unfortunate Abassa, his sister, who was afterwards reduced to the greatest distress and misery. It is said, that before she broke the rigorous order of her brother, she sent this writing to Giaffar her husband.

"I HAD resolved to keep my love concealed "in my heart; but it escapes and shews itself in "spite of my efforts.

"IF you do not yield to this declaration, both "my modesty and my secret will be lost to-"gether.

"BUT,

"BUT, if you reject it, you will ſave my life
"by your refuſal.

"LET whatever will be happen, I ſhall not die
"unrevenged.

"FOR, my death will ſufficiently declare who
"was my murderer."

Anno 800.

ABDERAME.

ABDERAME was the ſovereign of Safia, in the kingdom of Morocco. A crime had procured him that ſovereignty: he had his own nephew aſſaſſinated, who governed that ſmall ſtate, and took poſſeſſion of it. A ſecond crime got it away from him along with his life, and love was the occaſion of it. Abderame had a daughter of a great beauty: a young man, whoſe name was Ali-ben-Guacimin, and who was one of the principals of the town, ſaw the princeſs and became diſtractedly in love with her. He was lucky enough to get his tender ſentiments approved of, and eſpecially to turn the mind of the princeſs's mother ſo as to have her in his intereſts. With ſuch helps he was not long before he arrived at the ſupreme happineſs. He was one night introduced ſecretly into the princeſs's chamber, and

there we may eaſily gueſs at what was tranſacted between thoſe two lovers in ſo favourable a circumſtance. This interview was not however ſo ſecretly concealed but it came to the ears of Abderame, who inſtantly reſolved upon being revenged of it. As he had not been ſufficiently maſter of himſelf as to conceal his anger, both his wife and daughter, who took notice of it, ſent word to the young man of what was going about. Abderame, who had no notion of being ſuſpected and betrayed, ſent, one holy-day, word to Ali that he wiſhed to have him come with him to the moſque, whence they would go afterwards to take a walk, and when he would communicate to him an affair of the greateſt importance. Ali, accompanied by a friend of his, came and met the prince: they went together to the moſque, where Abderame was aſſaſſinated by Ali, who well imagined that at the *promenade* he would not be the ſtrongeſt.

Anno 1505.

ABENCHAMOT.

ABENCHAMOT, an Arabian captain, commanded in a borough of Mauritania, and often came to blows with the Portugueſe. One or

their

their chiefs, named Nuguo Fernand d'Atoya, plundered Abenchamot's borough, and took priſoner that of his women he loved beſt and moſt tenderly. The Moor, inflamed with the deſire of revenging himſelf and of recovering his dear wife, was not long before he ſet about purſuing the enemies; and, haraſſing them at every inſtant ſo far as even to carry his lance into their ſquadrons, he conſoled his wife and promiſed to relieve her. She begged of the ſoldiers, who guarded her, the permiſſion of ſpeaking to her huſband. "Cavaliero, who thinkeſt thyſelf ſo brave," ſaid ſhe to him, "remember what thou promiſedſt "me ſo many times, when thou toldeſt me thy "tender tale of love: deliver me, or die for my "ſake, and I will follow thy fate: but there is a "great difference between promiſing and keeping one's word!"

At theſe words Abenchamot, ſhaking a lance he held, "Yota," ſaid he, (it was the name of the fair Moor) "I never promiſed any thing but "I performed, and I ſhall never alter. The day "is long ſtill, victory is in the hands of the Al-"mighty, and ſtrength is in this arm."

The fair Moor, deſperate at hearing this, took ſome duſt which ſhe threw in the air, and replied to him, "all that thou ſayeſt is nothing but wind; "there is no longer a Yota for thee." Then,

Abenchamot taking off one of his ſhoes, threw it at her as a pledge, and returned towards his people to incite and encourage them to fight. He kindled in their hearts the ſame ardour as blazed in his, and which had juſt been excited by the reproaches of his dear Yota. They ruſhed with impetuoſity on the rear of the Portugueſe, and obliged them to turn back their faces to them. At that very moment Nuguo, overpowered by the heat of the weather, had juſt untied his neck-piece. Abenchamot, who took notice of it, ſeized that opportunity, and lanced at his throat a large and ſtrong javelin, which killed him on the ſpot. The Portugueſe immediately took up the body of their general, and while they diſputed among themſelves who ſhould ſucceed him, the Mooriſh captain, taking advantage of their diviſion, forces their ſquadrons, delivers his dear Yota, kills the braveſt of the enemies, and takes ſeveral of them priſoners.

Sometime after this event, the brave Abenchamot was killed by the Moors themſelves: his body was carried to Yota, who ſtarved herſelf to death, having from that moment refuſed to take any ſort of food till ſhe died: ſhe was depoſited with him in the ſame grave.

Anno 1524.

ABEN HUMEIA.

THIS prince was a Spaniard by birth, of an illuſtrious extraction and recommendable by his fortune: his real name was Ferdinando di Valore. Some diſſatisfaction he experienced at home induced him to renounce his country and his religion, and to take refuge among the Moors: There, it was not long before his merit got him to be noticed. In a certain rebellion which happened among thoſe people, they choſe him king of Grenada and Cordoua, when he took the name of ABEN HUMEIA. In that quality he obtained ſeveral advantages over the Spaniards, and he was ſupporting with a tolerable degree of dignity his crown, when love took it away from him along with his life.

HE fell paſſionately in love with a young widow, as highly diſtinguiſhed by her beauty as by the eminence of her birth. She was the daughter of Vincent Royas, firſt couſin to the king's firſt wife's father. To the natural graces of her perſon ſhe united all the talents which render a woman infinitely amiable. She loved one of the principal officers of the king, whoſe name was Diego, an Alguaſil, who had been an intimate friend of her huſband. Aben Humeia

was

was very ſenſible that in joining theſe two lovers with the connubial knot, it would be a mean of having his miſtreſs inceſſantly by him, and of coming with more facility to his end. He therefore propoſed Diego to marry the widow. Diego who had taken already notice of the king's paſſion, and who well ſuſpected his deſign, ſkilfully waved the propoſition. Then Aben Humeia, who till that time had experienced nothing but refuſals from the young widow, being fully determined to aſſuage his paſſion, promiſed her to marry her if ſhe would condeſcend to his deſign. The proſpect of a crown often induces to make many a ſacrifice. Diego was forgotten and the king made happy. Poſſeſſion, they ſay, is the tomb of love: ſhould ſome pretend the ſaying not to be abſolutely true in general, we ſhall anſwer that it proved however to be ſo with Aben Humeia; who, having no wiſh left unſatisfied, forgot his promiſes.

He paid dear for that forgetfulneſs. His deceived miſtreſs had no more her mind taken up with any thing but the means of avenging herſelf. She wrote to Diego; and, regardleſs of the attention of palliating her fault, ſhe contented herſelf with making him only a lively picture of her preſent ſituation, and left to him the care of her vengeance. The love with which he burnt

burnt for this unfaithful fair one, and the desire of punishing his rival, did not permit him to hesitate. He knew the king reposed the greatest trust in a troop of four hundred Turks, commanded by Abdalla-Aben-Abo. He got a fictitious letter conveyed to that commanding officer, by which the king ordered him to massacre the four hundred Turks, and afterwards to kill Diego. The latter arrived at Abdalla's precisely at the moment he received the letter. He spoke with vehemence against the king's project of putting to death so many brave soldiers who were perfectly innocent of any crime. Abdalla, who could not put this order in execution without the assistance of Diego, fearing lest he should apprise the Turks with it, shewed him the king's letter. Diego feigned the greatest astonishment; and, inveighing strongly against an ungrateful prince who wanted to have destroyed his best servants, he made Abdalla sensible that in a short time his lot might be the same. Common danger united them both; they immediately formed the plan of stripping Aben Humeia both of the throne and his life, and they met no great difficulty in having their design adopted by the troops. Immediately they set upon their journey, and arrived soon enough to get during the night into the king's apartment. Vainly did he attest his innocence

and

and the falſity of the letter, he was ſtrangled. Abdalla ſucceeded him, and Diego married his miſtreſs.

Anno 1570.

ABUSAID.

ABUSAID, the ſon of Algiapton, was ſultan of the Moguls, and a deſcendant of the celebrated Genghiſkan. He gave the place of generaliſſimo of his armies to the emir Giouban Niovan; and, in order to give him ſtill a ſtronger teſtimony of his favour, he gave him his own ſiſter for a wife. This favourite had a daughter whoſe name was Begdad Khatonn, whom he had married to the emir Haſſam Iltehani. The rare beauty of that woman made a very ſtrong impreſſion on the heart of Abuſaid; and, as ſultans are abſolute in their will, and are not uſed to meet with any oppoſition, the prince propoſed to the emir Haſſam to divorce his wife that he might marry her. Giouban, who depended on his credit, oppoſed that meaſure: but the emperor had him put to death along with his ſon. Haſſam preferred the loſs of a wife to that of life: he yielded therefore his to Abuſaid, who married her inſtantly, and who loved her ſo paſſionately that he left her the abſolute

ſolute miſtreſs of the empire. Some authors pretend that ſhe poiſoned the emperor at the age of two and thirty.

Anno 1335.

ACHOMATH.

STEPHENS, the ſon of Cherſeck, ſovereign of Montivera, in Sclavonia, had been for a great while paſſionately in love with the daughter of the deſpot of Servia. Every thing pleaſed him in the princeſs, her age, her birth, and eſpecially her graces, which rendered her one of the moſt beautiful women of her time. He was fortunate enough to be informed that the lady had no objection to his perſon, and thereupon he obtained the conſent of her friends. The ceremony of being betrothed to each other had already been performed, and there was, therefore, but one ſtep to make, in order to obtain the poſſeſſion of ſuch a treaſure of graces and beauty, when that happineſs vaniſhed in an inſtant. Cherſeck, in ſeeing the young princeſs, had not been able to reſiſt his falling in love with her; he did not ſcruple to get her away from his ſon, and he married her. The young prince, in his deſpair, reſpected too much the author of his days to attempt any thing raſh againſt him,

him, but he took refuge among the Turks, embraced the rites of their religion, quitted the name of Stephens, and assumed that of ACHOMATH.

THIS act of despair, prompted by love, turned afterwards to be of great service to the Christians in many circumstances: for, it was through the credit of Achomath that, after Bajazeth had taken Modon in Morea, several noble Venetians escaped being put to death. Achomath delivered many other prisoners with his purse, as well as through his credit. He was again the cause of Bajazeth making peace with the Venetians. Finally, it was at his recommendation that Lascaris, who had been sent by Laurent of Medicis, obtained a free access in all the libraries of Greece, to find out all the good books which had remained there, and been like to be buried in oblivion ever since the Eastern empire had been under the yoke of the Infidels.

Anno 1511.

ADALULPHE.

ADALULPHE, a great Lombard nobleman, could not resist the charms and beauty of Gundebergue, the wife of Ariovaldus, king of Lombardy. He was seized with the most violent passion

paſſion for her, but he did not dare to declare it. Some kind treatment he experienced from the princeſs made him forget his timidity. He had the boldneſs to make an attempt at the honour of Gundebergue, but he found all the reſiſtance which the moſt ſevere virtue can oppoſe. Being then afraid leſt the king ſhould hear of his criminal enterpriſe, the care of preſerving his life got the better of his love, and he charged with treaſonable deſigns that very princeſs he adored, and who had the greateſt right to his eſteem. The too credulous king had Gundebergue cloſely confined, without allowing her either the time or the means of juſtifying herſelf.

THREE years had already elapſed ſince the unjuſt detention of the queen; when Clotaire, king of France, moved with compaſſion at the misfortune of that princeſs, ſent ambaſſadors to Ariovaldus, to remonſtrate him that he had no right, on a mere accuſation deſtitute of proofs, to treat with ſo much cruelty Gundebergue, who was a princeſs iſſued from the royal blood of France, and thus to deprive her of the honours due to her birth and her rank. The king contented himſelf with anſwering, that he had pretty ſtrong reaſons to act in that manner. One of the ambaſſadors, named Aſoulde, reſuming the ſpeech, "We ſhall be of your opinion," ſaid he to the king,

king, "if you will be ſo kind as to permit the "queen to juſtify herſelf through the medium of "ſome of her officers who ſhould fight her ac- "cuſer in a duel." Ariovaldus gave his conſent to the propoſal. Then Aripert, a near relation to the queen, ſent for one Pitto to fight with Adalulphe, who accepted the challenge. No one is ignorant that it was the faſhion of thoſe times thus to decide the moſt important affairs. Victory declared in behalf of innocence; Adalulphe was killed; Gundebergue was liberated out of priſon, and reſumed her rank.

Anno 623.

ADELEIDE.

IF beauty is to be conſidered as a precious gift in a woman, it is, however, but juſtice to confeſs, that there are alſo but too many examples of its having been the great cauſe of the moſt atrocious crimes being committed, while there are few only of its having procured real happineſs. An awful verity, the fulneſs of which was keenly experienced by ADELEIDE, the daughter of Raoul II. king of Burgundy. Hughes, who, from a mere king of Arles, had arrived to the crown of Italy, demanded and obtained Adeleide for Lothaire,

thaire, his ſon. She was conducted to the court of Hughes, although Lothaire was ſtill too young to conſummate the marriage. Hughes could not withſtand the charms of the princeſs; he forgot ſhe was the wife of his ſon. There was no great difficulty for him to be met with in ſeducing a young perſon whoſe innocence was extreme, and who was in his power. In a word, he was happy, if, however, one may be reckoned ſo, in the committing of crimes.

HISTORY does not inform us whether that princeſs, inured to libertiniſm from ſo early an age, behaved better or worſe afterwards. All that we know is only that ſince the death of Lothaire, who left no children, Berenger II. who had got himſelf proclaimed king of Italy, aſked Adeleide in marriage for his ſon Adelbert, who ſhared with him all the honours and privileges of royalty. This propoſal having been rejected with rather too much haughtineſs, the princeſs was beſieged in Pavia; and, having not been able to prevent the town being taken, ſhe fell into the hands of Berenger, who avenged himſelf very barbarouſly of the refuſal of Adeleide. After having extorted from her favours which never ought to be but the reward of love, he had her cloſely ſhut up in the caſtle of Garda, without any other retinue

nue but a maid and a prieſt to ſerve her as a chaplain. Oh age! Oh manners!

THE love of liberty, however, procured Adeleide the means of eſcaping from her priſon along with her two companions of ſlavery. While ſhe was running away through all ſorts of waving and ſerpentine roads, to avoid being found out, and while her chaplain was gone to fetch proviſions, ſhe found herſelf expoſed to a new danger. Another prieſt met the princeſs and her maid; he thought he might take advantage of the opportunity of ſatisfying his brutiſh paſſion, and made ſuch ſtruggles and inſtances as are, in general, difficultly overcome. Adeleide, however, got out of her ſituation, by abandoning her maid to the impure deſires of the prieſt; and the poor girl thought ſhe ought to ſacrifice herſelf to ſave her miſtreſs's honour. At laſt the travellers arrived at the fortreſs of Canoſſe.

BERENGER, who was in the purſuit of them, and who had the greateſt intereſt in ſuffering not the princeſs to eſcape him, leſt ſhe ſhould ſet up her right and claim to the kingdom of Italy, which he had uſurped, beſieged immediately Canoſſe. The danger was great and urgent: nothing worſe could happen to Adeleide than to fall a ſecond time into the hands of a man who ſpared ſo little her virtue. She, therefore, called to her

assistance Othon, the king of Germania, and offered him her hand and the kingdom of Italy. Ambition, joined with the beauty of the princess, determined Othon. He marched against Berenger, and obliged him to raise the siege. Othon imagined that, out of gratitude, Adeleide never could have the courage to refuse him any thing; "but he had promised her to take her as his wife, "and it was the very way to find her most vir- "tuous. Indeed, she opposed so many obstacles "to his wishes, and rendered the satisfying of his "desires so very difficult, that he could not come "to the possession of her without first marrying "her. That marriage procured Othon the king- "dom of Italy." Some time afterwards, this prince being called by the pope, John XII. the grandson of the celebrated Marozia, took possession of the empire, as we shall have occasion to relate hereafter.

Anno 951.

ADHAD EDDOULAT.

ADHAD EDDOULAT, the second prince, or sultan, of the race of the Bovides, otherwise Delemites, became the most potent, and illustrious prince of his age. He united with his estate the kingdom of Persia, which was left

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to him by his uncle Adhad Eddoulat, at his death; he took poſſeſſion of the califfhip of Bagdat, and, by an additional ſtroke of luck, he found out a treaſure of immenſe value, in a manner ſtrange enough, as we are going to relate.

AMONG the many women of the prince, there was one in particular for whom a ſoldier of his guard was inflamed with the ſtrongeſt paſſion of love. He ſoon found the means of informing her of it, without being detected. One day, as he was a hunting, he purſued a fox, who made for and immediately got into his den. In digging all round, the ſoldier diſcovered ſome ſteps which led him to a grotto wherein he found much gold and many precious ſtones. He contented himſelf with taking a ſmall quantity of them, and to mark the place that he might come to it again to take more whenever he wanted.

HIS ſweetheart ſoon found that he had had ſome good luck by the preſents ſhe received from him. Her curioſity induced her to put ſeveral queſtions to her lover: he could not reſiſt the prayers and inceſſant ſolicitations of a woman he adored, and he entruſted her with his ſecret. This girl forgot immediately what ſhe owed to a man who made the greateſt ſacrifices to pleaſe her: ſhe feared not to expoſe the life of a man who loved her ſo much, in revealing the whole to the ſultan,

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as ſhe hoped, by that means, to make her fortune and to obtain the pardon of her fault, in introducing a man in the ſeraglio. The prince told her that, in order to find out where that treaſure was concealed, ſhe was to get herſelf taken there by the ſoldier, and have with her ſome bits of paper, which ſhe ſhould ſtrew all along as ſhe proceeded in the way, in order to facilitate the finding of the place. The whole was punctually executed. The prince, who was faithfully informed of the tranſaction, repaired, in company with ſome of his favourites, to the grotto, where the loving couple were arrived. The ſoldier was very much ſurpriſed at this ſudden interview. He expected nothing leſs than to loſe his life, when the ſultan, comforting him with kindneſs, made him a preſent of part of the treaſure, and gave him for wife the woman he loved.

Anno 980.

ÆBUTIUS.

LOVE was the cauſe of the diſcovery, which was made at Rome, of the infamous ſociety of the Bacchanalians. Thus it is we find it related in hiſtory.

A YOUNG man, the ſon of a Roman knight, and whoſe name was Æbutius, loſt his father at a

very tender age, and had the additional misfortune to loſe alſo, a great deal too ſoon, the tutors who had been given him. By theſe means, Titus Sempronius Rutilus, his ſtep-father, had, he alone, the adminiſtration of his eſtates, which were very conſiderable. He made a bad uſe of them; and when he ſaw the time of rendering his accounts to draw near, he, in concert with the mother of Æbutius, took the barbarous reſolution of ridding himſelf of his ſon-in-law. Duronia, his mother, gave to underſtand to her huſband, that, during her laſt illneſs, ſhe had made a vow to initiate her ſon into the myſteries of Bacchus, and that accordingly ſhe would, in the courſe of ten days, take him to the Bacchanals.

ÆBUTIUS was in love with a woman of great beauty, called Hiſpala Seſcennia, who, after having by her libertiniſm acquired a conſiderable fortune, had abſolutely renounced the vocation of courtiſan. As ſhe was ſincerely and earneſtly attached to the young Æbutius, ſhe took an extreme pleaſure in furniſhing to his wants, and in conſoling him of the hard treatment of his friends, who often left him in diſtreſs. We generally have nothing concealed for the object of our love. Æbutius imparted to his miſtreſs the project of his mother. What was his ſurpriſe when he ſaw Hiſpala employ both her entreaties and her tears

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to diſſuade him from getting initiated into the myſteries of Bacchus! However, as he ſeemed ſtill averſe to yield to the prayers of that woman, ſhe confeſſed to him, that, during her ſervitude, ſhe had attended her miſtreſs to that aſſembly of Bacchanalians, which was nothing but a ſanctuary of iniquities, and the very tip-top of the moſt ſcandalous lewdneſs; that almoſt all the young men who were admitted thither periſhed before the age of twenty, and in a moſt ſtrange manner.

SUCH a ſpeech, accompanied with the tears of Hiſpala, made a deep impreſſion on the mind of Ætutius. At his return home, he declared to his mother he would not go to the Bacchanalian aſſembly, but he was prudent enough not to diſcloſe the motive of his objection to it. Duronia then, throwing down the maſk, turned out her ſon from the paternal houſe. He took refuge with one of his aunts, to whom he was obliged to relate the cauſe of his diſgrace. She adviſed her nephew to make a declaration to the conſul, of what he had learnt of the infamies and murders committed in the nocturnal aſſembly which was held in the foreſt of Stimula.

THE conſul, whoſe name was Spurius Poſthumius Albinus, was ſeized with horror at the recital; and, being deſirous of getting at the whole truth, and all the particulars of that ſcene of de-

bauchery, he ſent for Hiſpala, at the houſe of Sulpicia, his mother-in-law. There it was he learnt all the minutiæ of thoſe infamous meetings where all kind of modeſty was abſolutely thrown off, in order to give one's ſelf up to all ſorts of the greateſt exceſſes and debauchery, and where the moſt baſhful were ſure to loſe their lives. Hiſpala concluded her account, by declaring that many men and women of the greateſt diſtinction were there to be found, and that the aſſembly were very numerous.

AFTER having taken proper meaſures for preventing any harm happening both to Hiſpala and Æbutius, the conſul reported to the ſenate all that he learnt of thoſe ſcandalous and criminal meetings. Pudicity always had been a virtue cheriſhed by the Romans. Thoſe venerable *patres conſcripti* heard, with horror, the news of the diſorders which reigned in the republic, and ſaw with the ſame eyes the dangers which might reſult from it. By order of the ſenate and of the people, the moſt exact inquiry was made after the guilty. Moſt of them were put to death, and this abominable ſect was abſolutely diſperſed and deſtroyed, both at Rome and in the environs. Hiſpala and Æbutius received each one hundred thouſand braſs *aſſes* as a reward. Hiſpala was beſides granted all the privileges of a free woman, with

with the permiſſion of chuſing a huſband in whatever rank ſhe pleaſed, without its being allowed to reproach the man, who ſhould have married her, to have miſallied himſelf. Hiſtory does not tell us whether or not Æbutius married his miſtreſs. However it had been a duty in him to do it.

Anno Romæ 567.

AGAMEMNON.

WE all know how great was the diviſion between Agamemnon and Achilles, at the ſiege of Troy, on account of their miſtreſſes. The firſt was king of Micena, and had been choſen the chief of thoſe Greeks who went to plunder and lay waſte the country of the Trojans at the occaſion of a woman. The ſecond was a hero, whom victory always accompanied. Agamemnon, proud of his rank, fell in love with a girl whoſe name was Bryſeis, whom Achilles loved; and, without any regard for a prince whoſe bravery ought to have been of ſuch a value, and indeed was ſo neceſſary to him, he got the girl carried off from Achilles. From that inſtant, Achilles refuſed to come out from his tent and to fight. The effects of which refuſal were ſoon ſtrikingly ſenſible, by the advantages the Trojans obtained. The deſire alone of avenging the death of Patrocles

trocles was capable of inducing Achilles to take his arms again: it was at that time he killed Hector, the ſon of Priam, king of the Trojans.

THIS hero himſelf was the victim of love; for it is given for truth that Paris killed him in a temple, where he had repaired to ſee Polixena, daughter of Priam, whom he loved.

BUT if love favoured Agamemnon before Troy, he prepared him a fatal lot at home. This prince had married Clytemneſtra, the daughter of Leda and Tyndarus. This princeſs, in the abſence of her huſband, gave too favourable and attentive an ear to the ſeducing ſpeeches of Egiſtus. Inſenſibly, her heart gave way to his inſinuating allurements, and inſenſibly her paſſion grew to ſuch a pitch of violence that ſhe heſitated no longer to ſacrifice not only the honour of Agamemnon, but even his life; for, at his return from the Trojan war ſhe cauſed him to be aſſaſſinated by her lover. No one is ignorant that a vengeance, ſtill more cruel, was taken afterwards of the tragical death of that prince; for, Oreſtus his ſon, incited by his ſiſter Electra, killed Egiſtus, and even his mother Clytemneſtra.

AMONG the many princes who attended at that celebrated ſiege, we all know Ajax, the ſon of Oileus, king of the Locrians. After the town was taken, this young prince got away from

from the temple of Minerva, Caſſandra, daughter of Priam, and who was a prieſteſs, and had her conducted to his tent. It was not long before Agamemnon was informed of the event, and at the ſame time, that this woman was a perfect beauty. The rank he held in the army induced him to think that Ajax would willingly reſign Caſſandra to him; but love has no regard for ranks, and Ajax, mightily enchanted with his miſtreſs, determined to keep her. In this circumſtance, Agamemnon had recourſe to the pretence of religion. He accuſed Ajax of being guilty of an horrid ſacrilege, by raviſhing a woman, devoted to Minerva: he perſuaded the Greeks that ſuch a crime was capable to draw upon them the wrath of the gods, if it were not expiated by the death of the guilty. Ajax, rightly frightened on account of the credit of his accuſer, thought the ſafeſt way was to ſet off. Unluckily, the barge in which he threw himſelf was wrecked, and the prince was buried in the waters.

Anno ——.

AGNES SORREL.

AGNES SORELLE or SORREL, who, to uſe the expreſſion of an ancient writer, "among

"the handſomeſt was the moſt handſome," was born lady of the manor of Fromenteaux, a village in the ſhire of Tours. Charles, the VIIth king of France, having heard mention of her beauty, was deſirous to ſee her, and was ſo much ſtruck with her charms, that he inſtantly became diſtractedly in love with her. Two years, however, elapſed, between the firſt interview he had with her at her own caſtle of Fromenteaux, and the ſecond; and it was Iſabella of Loraine, wife to René of Anjou, who, coming to implore the aſſiſtance of Charles VII. to get her huſband out of the hands of the Duke of Burgundy, brought the fair Agnes with her. This time the flames of love kindled a-new in the king's heart, and it is ſaid that the care of pleaſing her occupied his mind ſo ſtrongly, that he actually forgot that the Engliſh were in poſſeſſion of the greateſt part of his kingdom. We find it recorded in ſeveral writers of thoſe times that this beautiful girl roſe the king's courage by threatening him to quit him and to go with the king of England if he did not attend to the ſituation of his affairs, and march againſt his enemies; ſo that the fear, ſay they, of loſing his adorable miſtreſs, was the cauſe of his driving away the Engliſh, and of his recovering his kingdom. Even the celebrated and gallant Fontenelle has alſo adopted that idea, and it is

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on that occaſion he makes the following polite reflection; "ſee," ſays he, "how much France "is indebted to love, and how courteous that king- "dom is to be with the ladies, ſhould it be but "out of gratitude!" But a modern author diſ- approves that opinion, on the ground that the king of England, Henry VI. was, at that time, no more than ſeven years of age, and that it is ridi- culous to fancy that Agnes could have threat- ened Charles to quit him, in order to become the miſtreſs of a child.

WHAT is certain is, that all the hiſtorians agree that Charles grew torpid in the arms of effemina- cy and voluptuouſneſs, while his captains alone fought to preſerve him a crown on the point of dropping from his head; and they all agree like- wiſe, that his miſtreſs concurred not a little in ſtirring up his courage. "It was a lucky thing "for that good prince," ſays one of them, "that "women had ſo much empire over his mind, and "that thoſe among that ſex, whom he conſulted, "happened to have that degree of heroical ſenti- "ments which could ſtrengthen his own in thoſe "cruel extremities, and aſſiſt his tottering reſo- "lutions."

MARGUERITE of ANJOU, his queen, made uſe of all the aſcendance ſhe had on his mind to revive his hopes. The repreſentations of that princeſs

were ſtrongly ſupported by the beautiful Agnes; and "love more powerful than ambition on the "king's mind, re-animated that courage which "this laſt ſentiment was not able, by itſelf, to "ſupport." No one is ignorant of the following lines, which Francis I. made, in ſeeing a portrait of AGNES SORREL.

Gentille Agnes, plus d'honneur tu mérite,
La cauſe étant de France recouvrer,
Que ce que peut dans un cloître ouverer
Cloſe nonain ou bien dévot hermite.

And the meaning of which nearly runs as follows: "Gentle Agnes, more honours doeſt thou de-"ſerve, having had for object to recover France, "than can work out in a cloiſter a confined nun, "or a religious anachorite."

Now, as Francis I. lived only half a century after Charles VII. it is an evident proof that the general perſuaſion ever was, that the fair Agnes had much contributed to rouſe the courage of her royal lover; and we muſt confeſs, that, if ſhe may be reproached with the frailty of having been the miſtreſs of a man, (although he was a monarch) ſhe has well redeemed that fault by thoſe other virtues which procured her the eſteem of the prince, whom her beauty had captivated, and which, to this very day, never ceaſed

ceaſed to ſecure her the conſideration of the ſubſequent ages.

WHAT is very extraordinary is, that an ancient author maintains, that Charles VII. had but a platonical love for Agnes. "If any thing," ſays he, "ſhe has been guilty of with the king, it muſt "have been done very cautiouſly, and in ſecret. "True it is, indeed, that Agnes had a daughter, "who lived not long, and whom ſhe charged to "the king's account; but the king always "diſavowed it very much, and never claimed any "thing in her; wherefore ſhe may well be ſuppo-"ſed to have borrowed that child, or got it elſe-"where." It would be a downright abſurdity to adopt that opinion, and to imagine that Charles VII. whoſe ſoul was tender and full of ſenſibility, contented himſelf with pure ſentiments deſtitute of any gratification of his ſenſes, when he was in the company of a woman, he adored, and who was beauty itſelf. She was ſirnamed *Lady Beauty*, on account either of the graces of her perſon, or of a caſtle of that name, near Vincennes, which the king had given her.

IT is not to be doubted that Agnes Sorrel had three daughters with Charles VII. The firſt named Charlotte, married James de Brezé, whom we ſhall have occaſion to mention another time. Marguereta, the ſecond daughter, married Oliver

de Coëtivy. The third married Antony de Beuil, count of Sancerre, who was of the ſame family as Jacquelina de Beuil, counteſs of Moret, miſtreſs of Henry IV.

AGNES died in 1449, and was buried in the middle of the collegial church of Loches. Her effigy may ſtill be ſeen there in white marble, with two angels holding a pillow, on which is her head reſting, and two lambs at her feet. She had made conſiderable gifts to that church; notwithſtanding which, the canons, ſuppoſing that Louis XI. might preſerve againſt the fair Agnes the ſame hatred in his heart after her death, which he had entertained during her life, aſked him leave to take away that tomb from the choir of their church. But they were anſwered, they might have his conſent if they would return the great wealth they had received from her.

Speaking of the hatred Louis XI. entertained againſt that beautiful girl, a certain hiſtorian ſays, that Agnes, who did not like that prince while he was a dauphin, was inceſſantly exciting Charles VII. againſt him, which gave birth to a miſunderſtanding between the king and the queen. The dauphin, whoſe natural virtue was not patience, flew once into ſuch a paſſion as to give Agnes a ſlap on the face, which occaſioned his retiring into Dauphiny, whence he never returned till

till after the death of his father. It is alſo a general opinion that this prince, although diſtant from court, found means to make Agnes feel the weight of his vengeance; and that he got her poiſoned at the time ſhe came to meet the king at Jumieges to inform him of ſome conſpiracy. The death of that charming girl cauſed the greateſt grief to the king. The place of lady favourite was, however, filled by a couſin of Agnes Sorrel, Lady Villequier, whoſe maiden name was Antoinette de Maignelais, and who married in 1450 the Baron de Villequier, who was firſt gentleman of the king's chamber, and died in 1454. After his death Lady Villequier pleaſed Francis II. duke of Britanny, with whom ſhe had four children, among whom are to be reckoned the counts of Vertus, and of Avaugour, whom we ſhall have occaſion to mention in another place.

AKIBA.

AKIBA, a celebrated Rabbi whoſe name did not ſhine till after the deſtruction of Jeruſalem by Titus, owed his learning to love only. He was a herdſman to a rich inhabitant of Jeruſalem; in that ſituation, he dared to lift up his eyes and his heart as high as the daughter of his maſter, and

and declare her his paſſion for her. His boldneſs met with all the ſucceſs he could wiſh for. His miſtreſs, in liſtening to his deſires, promiſed him to take him as a huſband, if he would ſtudy and become a great ſcholar. Love is a great teacher. Akiba, ſtimulated by the hope of obtaining the poſſeſſion of the darling object of his wiſhes, ſoon became one of the greateſt doctors in Jeruſalem. His reputation grew ſo extenſive, that the number of his pupils was computed at twenty-four thouſand. Such a ſucceſs was crowned by his marriage with his maſter's daughter; but that happineſs was but ſhort. Having, unfortunately for him, been brought over to join the faction of the impoſtor Baroquebas, Akiba was taken, and put to the moſt dreadful excruciating tortures: he had his body torn to pieces with iron combs.

ALBOHACEN.

FERDINAND, ſirnamed the Catholic, and Iſabella, his queen, had ſeen fortune conſtantly occupied in favouring all their undertakings; they reigned over the ſeveral kingdoms of Aragon, Caſtille, and Leon. But the conqueſt of the kingdom of Grenada, which the Moors were ſtill in poſſeſſion of, flattered ſtill their ambition.

Love,

Love, who, as we ſay it in another place, had placed them on the throne of Caſtille, to the detriment of the lawful heireſs, confined in a convent, ſmoothened and made again eaſy for them, the ways to lay hold of that kingdom they wiſhed for ſo much, and which, indeed, became them better than any one elſe.

ALBOHACEN reigned over Grenada. A numerous poſterity gave him room to hope that his ſucceſſion would quietly deſcend to his heirs; he did not foreſee the misfortunes which his paſſions were on the eve of bringing upon his head. Although already advanced in years, he became paſſionately in love with a young chriſtian girl, whoſe beauty had cauſed her to be called by the name of *Zoraïa*, which, in the Arabic language, means *Morning-ſtar*. This girl ſacrificing to her ambition the God ſhe adored, conſented to ſatisfy the king's paſſion, on the condition he ſhould marry her. Albohacen was too much in love to refuſe any thing. He divorced his lawful queen, who was, beſides, a near relation to him, and married Zoraïa. This woman, taking advantage of the empire, which youth and beauty generally give over an enamoured old man, ſoon demanded greater ſacrifices. She inſiſted upon the children of the firſt wife being put to death, that the crown might come, without

out difficulty, to her's. Love, who blinded Albohacen, made him ſmother in his breaſt all paternal tenderneſs, and, to ſatisfy the inſatiable ambition of the imperious Zoraïa, he gave orders to have his children maſſacred. Two only having eſcaped from that ſlaughter, through the ſkill of their mother, took refuge at Cadiz, among ſome malecontents.

So barbarous a behaviour ſtirred up madneſs and fury in the hearts of the king of Grenada's ſubjects. They called the eldeſt of the princes, who had eſcaped, and placed him on the throne, during the abſence of his father. Vainly did Albohacen attempt to enter again the town of Grenada; he ſaw himſelf dethroned in one day, obliged to retire to ſome towns which kept faithful to him, and to diſpute to the laſt day of his life the throne with his own ſon. All thoſe diviſions among the Moors, which increaſed ſtill after the death of Albohacen, becauſe Boubdil, his ſon, found a concurrent in Zagal, his uncle, were a bleſſing for Ferdinand and Iſabella, who were not idle in making the beſt of it.

Anno 1482.

ALBOIN.

ALBOIN, king of Lombardy, had been firſt wedded to Clodoſvende, daughter to Clotaire, king of France. After the demiſe of that princeſs, he married Roſemonda, daughter to Cunimond, or Guinimond, king of the Gepides.—This ſecond wedding was contracted under bad auſpices. Cunimond, vanquiſhed by Alboin, had been put to death; and, that he might never forget either his triumph or his cruelty, Alboin had had ſet in gold the ſkull of Cunimond, and uſed to drink in it inſtead of a cup. In the arms of her father's murderer it was, therefore, that Roſemonda had been compelled to throw herſelf.—The thirſt of vengeance joined with love, haſtened in concert together, the death of Alboin.

One of the queen's officers named, according to ſome, Helmiges, and, according to others, Helmichid, had the good luck to pleaſe her. She took advantage of the aſcendance ſhe had over that officer's mind, to ſatisfy her vengeance. What urged her moſt to it was, that Alboin, in a great entertainment, compelled her to drink in her father's ſkull. But Helmichid, in ſpite of his love and the reward which awaited him, ſaid to the princeſs that it was not poſſible to kill the king

without the aſſenting of Perides, his favourite.—The firſt hints which were given of it to that nobleman were very ill received, and to bring him to, there was need of the moſt unheard of ſtratagem: the queen herſelf imagined it. She was well informed of the intimacies which reigned between Perides and a lady of her retinue. In the dead of a certain night, ſhe ſubſtituted herſelf for that lady, in a rendezvous which had been appointed between them, and declared herſelf to Perides, but after he had accompliſhed the crime. He was ſoon ſenſible he had but one reſolution to chuſe out of two, which were either to kill the king, or to ſee himſelf a ſacrifice to the vengeance of that prince. He adopted the firſt, and had the king aſſaſſinated. Roſemonda took flight inſtantly to Ravenna with Helmichid, whom ſhe married.

The governor who commanded in that town for the Romans, under the title of Exarch, was called Longinus. Intoxicated with the charms of Roſemonda, he arrived at pleaſing her. By degrees he came to perſuade her to rid herſelf of Helmichid. She was in love; ſhe heſitated not: beſides ſhe was not over ſcrupulous on the means ſhe employed to aſſuage her paſſions. She herſelf preſented Helmichid with a violent poiſon ſhe had with her own hands prepared, under the appearance

pearance of a cooling beverage. The effect of it was ſo ſudden that Helmichid felt it before he had finiſhed the cup. He knew well enough the princeſs not to doubt her being guilty of it. He drew inſtantly his ſword on her, and threatened to kill her on the ſpot, if ſhe did not ſwallow what remained in the cup. Both died a few minutes after.

Anno 571.

ALCIBIADES.

ALCIBIADES was an Athenian by birth, well known by his talents, his genius, and his determined taſte, and propenſity for pleaſures of all ſorts. "It ſeems (ſays an author) that nature, "in forming him, was willing to try what ſhe "could do; for, it is certain (ſays he again) that "no one ever excelled him, whether as to his "vices or to his virtues." After having perſuaded the Athenians to carry their arms into Sicily, he was nominated to the rank of being one of their generals. He was on the point of taking ſhipping, when the mutilation of the ſtatues of Mercury occaſioned a great ſtir in the city.—The people knew that Alcibiades did not care for obſerving even the outſides of religion. They knew

knew how propenſe he was to debauchery; ſuſpicions, therefore, fell upon him; but they obliged him, however, to weigh anchor and ſet off before they had yet determined any thing on the late tranſaction. During his abſence, the enemies of Alcibiades brought to the higheſt pitch the irritation of the people againſt him; ſo that he was recalled to take his trial. But, whether he was conſcious of his being guilty, or he miſtruſted the Athenians, and did not dare to reſt upon their conſtancy, he flew away, and took his refuge at Lacedemone.

THERE it is you might have ſeen that man, who, from infancy, had been ſo much uſed to luxury, abundance, and ſumptuouſneſs, ſubmit himſelf, without any difficulty, to the hard and frugal mode of living of the Spartans. This tractability of temper drew on him the eſteem of thoſe haughty republicans; but, his figure made a greater impreſſion ſtill on Timea, the wife of Agis, king of Lacedemone. Alcibiades knew women too well not to notice his triumph over her, and he enjoyed it openly. It is even reported that he had a child by Timea, who was called Leotichydes, and whom the mother privately called Alcibiades. What is certain is, that this intrigue was not a ſecret for Agis who declined to acknowledge Leotichydes for his ſon;

the

the cauſe why this young prince did not aſcend the throne, which was given to Ageſilas, his uncle. The credit of Alcibiades at Lacedemone was ſo great, that Agis, although the king, did not dare to take an open vengeance of the affront he received from that foreigner. He contented himſelf with creating him as many enemies as he could; ſo that, at laſt, Alcibiades, to avoid being put to death, withdrew himſelf to Milet, where Tiſſaphernus, ſatrap of the king of Perſia, governed, and where he did great ſervices to his country.

A. M. 3595.

ALEGRE (THE MARQUIS OF)

YVES, marquis of Alegre-Mailleau, was one of the victims of love. He made ſuch an impreſſion on the heart of Franciſca Babou, of la Bourdaiſiere, wife to Anthony d'Eſtrees, marquis of Cœuvres, that this lady, forgetting her name, her duty, and her reputation, left her huſband, and went to live openly at Iſſoire, with the marquis d'Alegre, who was governor of that place.—War, which pays no regard to the ſweets of love, came and broke, in a very abrupt and fatal manner, ſo intimate an union. Alegre was a proteſtant:

tant: he was beſieged in Iſſoire by MONSIEUR, brother to Henry III. He defended himſelf with much courage and bravery: but he was obliged to yield; and, what is worſe, the town was taken by ſtorm. Lady d'Eſtrees was killed by the ſoldiers, who put to death every body they met without any diſtinction, and who, perhaps, had beſides ſome ſecret orders to commit this piece of cruelty againſt a woman whoſe exterior appearance had, in any other circumſtance, full ſufficient powers to put a ſtop to their fury. The marquis d'Alegre, who was wounded, had time enough to eſcape the general ſlaughter, and to take refuge in the caſtle of his name. This retreat was not able to protect him againſt the vengeance of a man he had ſo publicly diſgraced; the marquis de Cœuvres got him aſſaſſinated there.

THAT very Lady d'Eſtrees was the mother of the beautiful Gabriella d'Eſtrees, of whoſe amours with Henry IV. all the world is well informed; and who, if we are to believe the chronicle of the time, was not (as we ſhall have occaſion to mention in another place) over faithful to that good king. It was at the occaſion of the above related fact that the following ſarcaſtical book-title was placed one day in Lady Montpenſier's library, *viz.* "Les formidables regrets des amoureux, par "Madame d'Eſtrées, revus & augmentés par le "Sr.

Sr. d'Alègre;" the meaning of which is this; "the formidable lamentations of the lovers, by Lady d'Eſtrees; reviſed and enlarged by the Sieur d'Alegre." It is aſſerted as truth, that after the death of Lady d'Eſtrees, the ſoldiers who ſtripped her, having examined her body, found her p—— platted with a ſilk ribbon of all ſorts of colours.

Anno 1577.

ALEXANDER THE GREAT.

AFTER the celebrated battle of Arbelles, which decided the fate of Darius, and that of his vaſt empire, Alexander marched towards Perſepolis, the capital of Perſia, the gates of which he found open. He gave the plundering of the town to his ſoldiers, and reſerved for himſelf the treaſures of the king. The palace of Darius was reckoned a ſuperb edifice. One evening, as Alexander had given himſelf up to debauch, a courtiſan, named Thaïs, begged of him to have that place ſet on fire. The prince, whoſe reaſon was drowned in wine, and who felt himſelf incited by the careſſes and prayers of a pretty woman, took, himſelf, the trouble of ſetting fire to that ſumptuous building: the flames ſoon reached

ed the town, and all was reduced to aſhes. Thaïs, according to Plutarch, was the concubine of Ptolomy, who was king of Egypt. She ſolicited the ruin of Perſepolis for no other reaſon but to make up for the conflagration of Athens, and that it might be ſaid that a woman had more contributed to avenge Greece than the greateſt captains had been able to perform. The ſame author adds again, that Thaïs aſcended the throne of Egypt along with Ptolomy.

Anno M. 3620.

AMALON.

AMALON, duke of Champaign, having had an opportunity to ſee a young girl of an extreme beauty, formed inſtantly the reſolution of coming at the poſſeſſion of her. That he might not be traverſed in his projects, he found a pretence to ſend his wife into the country. Being then alone, and ſecure with reſpect to the faithfulneſs of his ſervants, he ordered them to go and fetch that young woman from her houſe, and bring her to him. In the mean while he thought proper to get himſelf intoxicated with liquor, very likely to the purpoſe that he might not be ſo ſuſceptible of being moved by any ſenſation of pity. And, indeed, need enough had he of ſhewing hard-

heart-

heartedneſs; for, no ſooner had that beautiful creature been informed of the duke's intentions, but ſhe oppoſed all the reſiſtance ſhe was capable of to defend her chaſtity. But ſhe was forced at laſt to yield to ſtrength and violence; ſhe was even uſed very ill, and received ſuch blows on her face as made her loſe much blood from the noſe. At laſt ſhe was carried to Amalon's bed, who, fatigued and drowſy by the fumes of the viands and wine, fell aſleep, holding his ſad victim in his arms, before he had accompliſhed his barbarous ſacrifice. The young woman, wiſhful to ſave her honour, waited till Amalon was ſunk into a profound ſleepineſs, and ſuddenly laying hold of a ſword ſhe had ſpied near the bolſter, ſhe ſtruck the duke with it, with a hand not quite ſo ſure as that of Judith, though hard enough however to deprive Amalon of the power of taking any vengeance of it. "Pain waked him, and he "called loudly for his ſervants; they ran up and "would fain have killed the girl, had not the "duke prevented it by confeſſing, as he was "ready to expire, that he was very much in the "wrong to have attempted to defile ſo modeſt "a young perſon, and that ſhe had acted right in "defending her virtue by ſo ſtrange a mean. "Shortly after he had uttered theſe words, he "gave up his laſt breath. While all his ſervants

" were in amazement and ſurpriſe at what they " heard and ſaw, this heroine, who had preſerved " her judgment whole and ſound in a circum- " ſtance capable to diſconcert the moſt reſolute " people, found means to eſcape from the midſt " of them; and, walking all night with ſpeed, " ſhe repaired the next day to Chalons-ſur-ſaone, " fifteen leagues from there, where the king Gon- " trand was at maſs in St. Marcel church. She " threw herſelf at his feet to obtain his pardon. " The king was pleaſed to hear from her mouth " the recital of the ſtory; and, moved with ad- " miration at the example of ſo rare a virtue, he " not only forgave her, but he took her alſo under " his immediate protection, forbidding at the " ſame time the kin of the deceaſed ever to cauſe " her any moleſtation whatever."

Anno 594.

AMOROUS LIGUE (THE)

MR. SAINTE-FOIX, in his Hiſtorical Eſſays on Paris, ſpeaking of the manners of the thirteenth century, mentions a very extravagant ſociety of fanatics which went by the name of *la Ligue des Amans*, that is to ſay, *the Amorous* or *the Lovers Ligue*. Their ſcheme was to prove the exceſs of their love, by their invincible obſtinacy

ſtinacy in withſtanding the ſeaſons. The knights, the equeries, the married and ſingle ladies who were initiated into that order, were bound, according to the rules of their inſtitution, to cover themſelves very ſcantily in the moſt froſty weather, and very warmly in the hotteſt days of ſummer. In this laſt ſeaſon they lighted great fires, with which they warmed themſelves as if they ſtood in the greateſt want of it. In the winter, it would have been a ſhame and a ſin to find the leaſt ſparkle of fire in their houſes. Their chimneys, in that cold ſeaſon, were trimmed with green foliages or other green leaves and verdures which could poſſibly be got. As ſoon as one of them entered a houſe, the huſband took great care that his gueſt's horſe ſhould want for nothing, and left him himſelf maſter over every thing in the houſe, where he never returned till he was gone. Then, if he were of the ſame brotherhood, he met likewiſe with the ſame treatment and the ſame complacency from the huſband, whoſe wife, being of the ſame ſociety, was the object of his cares and his viſits. This ridiculous ſociety ſubſiſted till the greateſt part of thoſe chilled lovers, ſtarved with cold, died all at laſt, one after another, with the lie in their mouth, by proteſting how ardent were the flames which kindled in their heart.

ANDREW.

IN the time of the cruſade which was determined upon after the fourth council of Latran, in 1215, Andrew, king of Hungary, was one of the firſt who went over to the Holy Land, in order to carry aſſiſtance to the chriſtians of that country. As he left his kingdom, he truſted the adminiſtration of it to the palatine of Hungary, whoſe name was Banchanus, and recommended him, above all things, to do ſtrict juſtice to every one, without any regard to either rank or fortune.

BANCHANUS's wife, a woman of the greateſt beauty, anxious to ſoothen the melancholy of the queen, kept her a moſt aſſiduous company. The count of Moravia, who was the queen's own brother, coming to Hungary in thoſe circumſtances, was received with all poſſible marks of diſtinction; and it was the endeavour of every one to amuſe him with routs, balls, and aſſemblies. It was amidſt all thoſe entertainments that this prince fell in love with the regent's wife. He was not long before he made her a confeſſion of his paſſion, and employed all the means which the moſt ardent love can inſpire to win the heart of that lady. All his attempts were vain, and Banchanus's wife, teaſed at laſt with ſo cloſe a purſuit,

purſuit, pretended for a while ſome indiſpoſition, that ſhe might keep away from court. This obſtinate repulſe only increaſed and irritated the prince's deſires. A gloomy melancholy, the uſual effect of a great paſſion, took poſſeſſion of his mind; and, to eaſe his ſoul, he was obliged to intruſt it to the queen his ſiſter. This princeſs took rather too much intereſt in her brother's diſtreſs of heart, and was weak enough to favour his criminal intentions. In order to ſucceed better, the count affected a more reſpectful behaviour with his miſtreſs; he ſhewed leſs ardor and became not ſo troubleſome. Thus, her apprehenſions being removed by the alteration of his conduct, this woman took leſs precautions; and, one day, having accompanied the queen in a remote part of her apartment, the princeſs abandoned her to the count who was there, and who by force got what he had not hitherto been able to obtain through his aſſiduities and ſolicitations.

ALTHOUGH the regent's wife was enraged in her ſoul, ſhe kept the ſecret of this adventure for ſome time. But, one day, ſeeing her huſband diſpoſed to careſs her with his uſual tenderneſs, "Approach me not," ſays ſhe, my lord, in pouring a flood of tears, "and get away from a wo-"man who is no longer worthy the chaſte em-

" braces of her huſband. A villain full of bold-
" neſs has been raſh enough to ſully your bed,
" and the queen, his ſiſter, has not been aſhamed
" herſelf to deliver me up to his tranſports. I
" ſhould already have puniſhed myſelf for what
" is their crime, had not religion forbid me to
" make an attempt on my life. But this forbid-
" dance of the law has no concern with an injur-
" ed huſband; I am but too guilty, ſince I have
" loſt my honour; I beg my death of you as a
" favour, that I may no longer ſurvive my ſhame
" and my diſgrace."

BANCHANUS, after having conſoled his wife as well as he could, conſidered how he could be revenged of this affront. The firſt victim ought to have been the count of Moravia, but this prince had ſecretly left the kingdom. Banchanus, therefore, repairs to the palace, aſks the queen to retire into her cloſet with him in order to take communication of ſome letters he had juſt received. When he was alone with her, he reproached her with bitterneſs with her crime, and ſtabbed her to death. He himſelf informed the court of what he had done, and of the motives of his action. Then, taking the road to Conſtantinople, he met there the King Andrew, and told him: " Mighty Lord, in giving me your laſt
" commands, as you were ſetting out from Hun-
" gary,

"gary, you charged me above all things, that, "without any regard either for rank or nobility, "I ſhould adminiſter juſtice to all your ſubjects "with the ſtricteſt rigour. That I have done "to myſelf; I have killed the queen, your wife, "who had proſtituted mine; and, far from ſeek- "ing for the ſafety of my perſon by a ſhameful "flight, I bring you my head. Diſpoſe as you "like of my life: but, remember that by my life "or my death your people will judge of your "equity, and whether I am innocent or guilty."

THE example was without an equal, as well as the boldneſs of Banchanus. "If things are as "you ſay," replied the king, "go back to Hun- "gary; continue to adminiſter juſtice to my "ſubjects with the ſame exactneſs and ſeverity "as you did to yourſelf. My ſtay in the Holy "Land ſhall not be long; and, at my return, "I ſhall examine on the ſpot whether your action "is worthy of praiſe or puniſhment." Indeed, the prince did not tarry long after that in Pale- ſtine, which did great hurt to the chriſtians to whoſe aſſiſtance he had come; but, the action of Banchanus had made on him a terrible impreſſion. No ſooner was he returned home, but he would examine, himſelf, the circumſtances of that cele- brated litigation, and he was equitable enough to acquit Banchanus.—Anno 1218.

ANDRONICHUS.

ANDRONICHUS COMNENE, who, at a very far advanced period of life, and by very odious ways, aſcended the throne of Conſtantinople, experienced many misfortunes in the courſe of his life. He was the ſon of Iſaac Sebaſtocrator, ſon to Alexis Comnène, and brother to John, who was the father of the emperor Manuel. This prince had his own niece, by his brother's ſide, publicly in keeping, and Andronichus likewiſe lived in the moſt ſcandalous manner with Eudocia, the daughter of his couſin. The friends of Eudocia, who were all people of the firſt nobility, and who occupied the firſt places of government, wiſhing to take vengeance of the diſgrace which the ſcandalous intercourſe of Andronichus with their relation reflected on them, tried ſeveral times to undo him: "but there was "no danger he ran not to with alacrity, when "Eudocia was concerned, and which he did not "think himſelf well rewarded for by the conſtant "love ſhe had for him." One day among others he ran the greateſt riſk. As he was in Paphagonia with the emperor, the parents of Eudocia ſeized the opportunity, when he was in bed with her in his tent, to ſurround it, well reſolved to put an

an end to his exiſtence. But Andronichus, whoſe valour was well known, leaped over the ſtakes which defended his tent, and eſcaped from their hands.

He did not ſo eaſily avoid the emperor's reſentment. For, ſome perſons having taken the licence to make ſome repreſentations to Andronichus on his conduct, he received them with making the moſt cutting retaliations of ſarcaſtical ſneers on Manuel, who, ſaid he, gave him the example. Theſe ſpeeches were repeated to the emperor, who ordered Andronichus to be taken to priſon. He got out in deceiving the vigilance of the guards ſet over him, and a little while after he made it up with the emperor.

Another time, this prince having ſent him into Celicia, Andronichus forgot that his buſineſs there was to combat the enemies of the empire. Intoxicated with the charms of Philippa, the daughter of Raimond, prince of Antioche. He repaired to that town, and won ſo well the heart of that princeſs, that ſhe conſented already to quit her country and her family to follow him. Manuel, who had the greateſt intereſt in hindering that marriage to take place, obliged Andronichus, by his threatenings, to give it up. But, having heard there were orders to arreſt him beſides, he fled to Jeruſalem.

It was in that city that love, coming again to procure him new pleaſures, flung him alſo into new perplexities. Andronichus, who was not ſhy, and ſtood at nothing when his pleaſures were at ſtake, paid openly his addreſſes to his own ſiſter Theodora, daughter of Iſaac Sebaſtocrator, and widow of Baudoin, who had been king of Jeruſalem. This new inclination being an horrid inceſt, irritated ſtill more the emperor againſt him. This prince ſent, therefore, orders to thoſe of Celeſyria to arreſt him, and to have his eyes put out. A lucky chance occaſioned that order to fall into the hands of the princeſs Theodora; ſhe informed her lover of it inſtantly, and they both fled together into the dominions of the ſultan, who commanded the Caldea. Andronichus ſpent there a few years, and was at laſt recalled by the emperor, with whom he got into favour again, and lived quiet till the death of that prince.

Then Andronichus's ambition awoke, and love paved him again alſo the firſt road to ſatisfy it. The empreſs, widow of Manuel, and daughter of Raimond, prince of Antioche, was ſtill young and handſome: many grandees of the empire coveted ambitiouſly the happineſs of pleaſing her; but Alexis Comnène, protoſebaſte, and firſt couſin to the late emperor, ſucceeded over all his concurrents, which excited againſt him

him the jealouſy of the moſt part of the grandees. During all thoſe troubles and cavillations, the young Alexis, Manuel's ſon, hardly held yet the reins of the empire, and was not able to oppoſe the diſorders which were every day growing and multiplying. All theſe circumſtances afforded Andronichus a motive for quitting the retreat he lived in, and come to the aſſiſtance of his nephew. He was ſo much the more earneſtly wiſhed for, as the connections of the empreſs, with Alexis Comnène, occaſioned the greateſt diſturbances. Her lover ruled the empire with an unbounded authority; none of the favours, employs, or dignities, were granted, except by him, or through his conſent. Mary Porphyrogeneta, daughter of the emperor Manuel, by his firſt wife, was the firſt who rebelled openly againſt the tyranny of the protoſebaſte. The conſpiracy ſhe had excited having not ſucceeded, ſhe was obliged to take refuge in the great church, with her huſband, the ſon of the marquis of Montferrat, "in order," ſaid ſhe, "to avoid the "fury of her ſtep-mother, and her lover." The fate of that princeſs roſe the people's compaſſion; ſeveral houſes were plundered; it was found neceſſary to ſend troops, and it was but after much blood ſhed, that it was at laſt agreed by treaty, that no harm, nor the leaſt moleſta-

tion, ſhould be done, or procured to the princeſs Mary, nor the Cæſar, her huſband, and that all the paſt ſhould be forgotten.

ALL theſe troubles, as may be conceived, excited and increaſed the deſires and the hopes of Andronichus; and now, it muſt be allowed, he had a fair pretence to take arms; he did ſo, and the moſt rapid ſucceſs favoured his undertaking. The protoſebaſte, who might have oppoſed him, made but a faint reſiſtance. The people, who had been ill uſed by him, took arms againſt him. He was arreſted and taken before Andronichus, who had his eyes inſtantly put out. The conqueror having marched to Conſtantinople, was himſelf not long before he enjoyed the ſovereign authority. The empreſs was ſacrificed; and as he found that his nephew, who had only the name of emperor, was ſtill ſomewhat troubleſome to him, he got him ſtrangled. By thoſe means he reigned alone.

Anno ——

ANECDOTES (ANONYMOUS ENGLISH)

AN Engliſh young girl, between fifteen and ſixteen years of age, being ſoftly ſolicited, and at laſt perſuaded by her father's prentice, ſuffered herſelf

herſelf to be run away with. In order to put the ſcheme in execution, they found themſelves under the neceſſity of dreſſing in diſguiſe; and, out of a thouſand among which the fugitive couple might have choſen, their unlucky ſtar made them pick one, the unſkilful choice of which was the cauſe of their plan miſcarrying. They took it into their head to diſguiſe both in ſailors cloaths, and at that very time there was preciſely a very hot preſs carrying on in England. Hardly were our lovers looking on themſelves as out of danger when they met the terror of the maritime gentry, a preſs-gang. They were inſtantly taken up, and in ſpite of all their clamours they were carried on board the tender. Both appeared before the Capitan-Baſha, who having heard their complaints, thus anſwered the fair captive: "Say what you will, my dear heart, "I muſt keep you both, and for a very good reaſon, "the king wants your lover, and I want you." They ſay the young man, furious at this judgment, tore his hair, and that the fair maid made the beſt of her circumſtance. Girls are ſo reaſonable!

Anno 1776. Public papers.

APPIUS

APPIUS CLAUDIUS.

THE law Terentia, which for ſeveral years had ſtirred up ſo much tumult and diſſenſion in Rome, having at laſt been unanimouſly accepted, and thoſe which had been brought from Greece requiring nothing more than being put in order and reduced into a code, | Decemvirs were, for that purpoſe, choſen and elected. Theſe ten magiſtrates took the place of the conſuls, the tribunes, and any other ſort of magiſtracy; in ſhort, an abſolute authority was veſted in them.— The firſt year ſeemed to be the ſummit of felicity for the Romans. They received with the greateſt ſatisfaction and joy the tables of laws. They were in rapture with the wiſdom, the prudence, and the equity of their new magiſtrates. Their authority, which was to end with the cloſing of the year, was prolonged for one year longer, under pretence of two more tables of law, the addition of which was wanting. That pretence was ſuggeſted by Appius Claudius, an ambitious man, who aimed at nothing leſs than to enjoy the ſovereign power. He choſe for his colleagues men who were totally devoted to him; after which he put no longer bounds to his tyranny. Every ſingle order of the ſtate experienced by turn the

effects

effects of his fury, of his cruelty, and his injuſtice: and no one did even dare to complain of that ſlavery. The enemies of Rome, informed of the criſis which that haughty republic now laboured under, thought this was a favourable opportunity of humbling it, and avenging themſelves at the ſame time. They took arms, and came to lay waſte the lands in the environs of Rome. The decemvirs now hated and abhorred, who enjoyed only an uſurped authority ſince their ſecond year was expired, dared not aſk for the liſting of the troops. They aſſembled the ſenate, and obtained a decree to raiſe ſome legions. The troops marched out with their generals at their head, but with the firm reſolution alſo in their heart to ſuffer themſelves to be beaten, in order to bring ſhame and diſgrace on the decemvirs who led them. Such were the circumſtances when love took care to procure the Romans a change which was become highly indiſpenſable, but which, at the ſame time, exceeded their moſt ſanguine hopes.

APPIUS Claudius, who had remained at Rome while his colleagues headed the armies, became paſſionately in love with a young plebeian, named Virginia, who was the greateſt beauty in all Rome. She was at that time with her uncle, becauſe Virginius, her father, was in the army which

which had marched againſt the Equi. Claudius at firſt employed all the means he could think of to ſeduce Virginia: preſents, prayers, threats, every thing in turn was made uſe of, but all in vain. His paſſion, too ardent to be rebuked, perſuaded him that he was not to leave any means untried to ſatisfy his wiſhes; and that which he put in execution was worthy his barbarous iniquity.

One day, as he was ſitting on his tribunal, one of his clients, whoſe name was Marcus Claudius, brought there Virginia. This wretch made oath, and declared, that this young girl was born from one of his female ſlaves: that ſhe had been conveyed to the houſe of Virginius, as his daughter, but that it was a falſity, and ſhe belonged to him: that he had a right to ſeize on his property wherever he found it: and that, be the caſe as it might, he offered, however, to give ſecurity for the repreſenting of Virginia whenever called upon, and when her ſuppoſed father ſhould be back from the army. Vainly did the uncle of the virtuous Virginia remonſtrate that, till the time of Virginius's return, it was proper his daughter ſhould ſtay at her tutor's: vainly did the people ſeem to take the part of that innocent victim they wanted to ſacrifice to the brutiſhneſs of the decemvir; Appius ordered Virginia

nia to be delivered into the hands of Claudius.—At that moment, a young man named Icilius, who was to have Virginia for a wife, forces his way through the croud, and ſwears that his future wife ſhall not be abandoned to the laſcivious deſires of a tyrant. The lictors repulſe Icilius; but, the people's indignation being rouſed to fury, they compelled Appius to relinquiſh his prey till the next day, which he appointed to pronounce definitively on the now pendent litigation.

SUCH was the ſhort delay he was allowing to ſend for Virginius and get him back from the camp, while at the ſame time he diſpatched meſſengers to his colleague, who commanded the army, to beg of him to put that brave officer under an arreſt. But, theſe orders came luckily too late, as Icilius's meſſengers had preceded them, and Virginius was already ſet out for Rome, where he arrived at the time appointed. There were a prodigious concourſe of people at the judgment of ſo intereſting an affair. Vainly did Virginius prove by moſt indubitable teſtimonies that his wife was the real mother of Virginius, that ſhe had even ſuckled her at her own breaſt; the luſt of Appius was too violent to yield even to demonſtrative evidence, he adjudged Virginia to his client as his property.

On hearing this iniquitous and ſhocking judgment, the people in rage was ripe for rebellion, but the ſight of the axes, the rods, and the whole apparel of authority, ſtill over-awed them. It was all over with the innocent Virginia. Appius along with his client, followed her already, and his unchaſte deſires blinded him on his injuſtice; when the unfortunate Virginius who foamed with rage in his heart, and who, with tears in his eyes, followed his dear daughter, being arrived near the temple of Venus Cloacina, begged on his knees of Appius, the permiſſion of taking in particular his laſt leave of that child he had hitherto been ſo fully perſuaded to be his. The decemvir thought he could not deny him this favour.—Virginius then, ſnatching immediately a large knife from a butcher's ſtall, approached Virginia; "Receive, daughter," ſaid he, "receive the laſt "pledge of my love; free ſtill, and exempt of "pollution, go and meet thy anceſtors with all "thy virtue." Saying this he ſtrikes her; and, turning towards Appius, *By this blood it is*, exclaimed he, *that I devote thy head to the infernal Gods*. The anger of Appius became at that moment of no ſervice. The ſpectacle of Virginia expiring by the hands of her own father, kindled an animoſity which all the authority of the decemvir was no longer able to quell.

Virginius

VIRGINIUS having repaired back to the army, informed them, with all the expreſſion of rage and fury, what had juſt happened to him.—The inſurrection of the troops was immediately the conſequence of the recital; they forſook their general, and retired on the mount Aventine. They were not long before they were joined by the army which was againſt the Equi. All of them in concert, and under the direction of military tribunes they had elected, repaired to the ſacred mount. There the annihilation of the office of decemvir was reſolved upon, as well as the reſtitution of the conſulſhip and tribuneſhip. At the head of the latter were placed Virginius, Icilius, and Numitorius, who was Virginia's uncle. Thus it is that in the ſame manner as royalty had been deſtroyed at Rome by love, ſo was the tyranny of the decemvirs aboliſhed by the ſame Deity.

THE conſequence of this change was the puniſhment of Appius. The tribunes of the people ſummoned him before their tribunal, whence they ſent him to priſon, and where, they ſay, he procured himſelf death, to ſave himſelf from the ſhame of a public execution ſo much deſerved by his crimes.

Anno Romæ, 304.

ARMENIAN

ARMENIAN (An)

A YOUNG Turkiſh nobleman conceived a violent paſſion for an Armenian woman of great beauty. Having not been able either by his preſents or his prayers to prevail on her to be unfaithful to her huſband, he threatened her to be the deſtruction of both her and her huſband if ſhe did not conſent to his wiſhes. This woman ſeemed to be terrified at ſuch a threatening; and, after having ſhed many tears, ſhe gave a meeting to the Turk at her houſe on a day her huſband, ſhe ſaid, was not to be at home. The amorous Turk fled to the rendezvous at the time appointed, not forgetting, however, to take with him a pair of piſtols and a cutlaſs for his ſafety. The Armenian ſhed many tears to engage him to deſiſt his enterpriſe; but her tears, which made her appear ſtill more handſome, irritated only ſo much the more the inflamed deſires of the Turk. Impatient to ſatisfy them, he was at laſt on the point of getting the better of the woman, when the huſband appeared. It was in vain the Turk attempted to defend himſelf, the Armenian, with the aſſiſtance of his wife, was more lucky, and both overcoming the Turk, the young lover met with

with death inſtead of the pleaſure he expected to enjoy.

AN Armenian prieſt was the only perſon who, through confeſſion, was made privy to this adventure. As he was both of an avaricious and a perfidious diſpoſition, he threatened his penitents to go and reveal their crimes, if they did not lend him ſuch a ſum he wanted. They complied; he renewed his demands which they ſatisfied again: thus he went on till at laſt he had ſtripped them of all they had and brought them to beggary, after which when he could no more get any thing of them, he compleated his infamy by going to the father of the young Turk they had killed, and informing him of all the circumſtances of the event. The father, who occupied a place of conſiderable note under the government, carried his complaints before the grand viſier, againſt the murderers of his ſon, and declared to him, at the ſame time, he had not found out thoſe who were guilty of that crime otherwiſe but by the affidavit of the prieſt to whom they had gone to confeſs their ſins, according to the rites of their religion.

THE viſier was an upright man and a man of ſenſe, as will ſoon appear by the judgment he pronounced. After having firſt enquired from the Armenian archbiſhop whether a prieſt was allowed to reveal what was depoſited in his boſom by way

way of confeſſion, and what was the puniſhment which generally was inflicted on him who was convicted of ſuch an action; next to that, having made himſelf ſure alſo, by the very declaration of the Armenian prieſt, that he was the perſon who had informed the father of the young Turk of the whole tranſaction, after having been intruſted with it from the mouth of the young Armenian woman through the means of her confeſſing to him, according to the rites of the religion ſhe profeſſed. Laſtly, having again learnt from the culprits the true motive which had induced them to kill the young Turk, and the various ſums they had lent to their confeſſor to engage him not to reveal what they had intruſted him with, under the ſeal of confeſſion. The viſier condemned the prieſt to be burnt alive in the public place. As for the culprits they were diſcharged, but it is not known whether the money the prieſt had extorted from them was ordered to be returned or not.

ASPASIA.

PERICLES, one of the greateſt men Athens ever poſſeſſed; on whom all the hiſtorians have beſtowed the greateſt encomiums; who, in the moſt intricate affairs, diſplayed a nobleneſs of ſoul

ſo ſcarce; Pericles betrayed all the weakneſs and puſillanimity imaginable when love was at ſtake.

He was one of the Acamantidian tribes, born in the borough of Calargna, and deſcended from the firſt and moſt illuſtrious families of Athens. His father's name was Xantippus, and his mother's Agariſta. He was united in connubial knot with one of his relations, who gave him two ſons. Suitableneſs, in the union of that couple, had very likely been rather attended to than the propenſity of their hearts conſulted; wherefore Pericles was not long before he began to commit acts of infidelity towards his mate. Chryſilla poſſeſſed his affection for a while: he left her to love Aſpaſia to diſtraction. This new paſſion heightened only the diſlike which was already predominant between Pericles and his wife. They, accordingly, ſeparated without grief and without ſorrow, and, by that means, Aſpaſia became Pericles's wife. This woman was of Milet, and the daughter of Axiochus. Her behaviour, before ſhe got acquainted with Pericles, had been more than equivocal, ſince ſhe uſed to keep women of pleaſure among thoſe of her retinue. A circumſtance which afforded no little room for the ſneers he experienced from the poets, who, as we all know very well, did not ſpare him much. But his love became only more

more ardent for it, and his weakneſs kept pace alſo with it in increaſing.

ASPASIA was once accuſed of impiety for having proſtituted women to the uſe of Pericles: he went in perſon to ſolicit the judges, and cried bitterly to obtain the abſolution of Aſpaſia. It is aſſerted that it was at the ſolicitation of that woman, and in order to pleaſe her that he went to war with the Samians, on account of the Miletians; a war which was the occaſion of the total ruin of Samos, the walls of which were overturned, and the inhabitants condemned to pay immenſe ſums of money. It was again, they ſay, at the requeſt of Aſpaſia, that began the Pelopaneſian war. Aſpaſia was irritated againſt the Megarians, who had kidnapped two girls in her retinue, and the Megarian war was the ſource whence ſprang the Pelopaneſian. However, Plutarch gives it ſo.

IT is alſo the general opinion that Aſpaſia was not quite the only cauſe which drew on Pericles the ſneers and ſarcaſms of the poets. They gave vent to their mirth againſt that great man, on account of his paſſion for the wife of Xantippus, his eldeſt ſon; a paſſion which that ſame ſon never ceaſed to upbraid him with to the laſt day of his life.

Anno Domini 323, Mundi 3584.

AUTRICHE

AUTRICHE (ANNA OF)

QUEEN ANN, of Autriche, the wife of Lewis XIII. was very unhappy during the king's life; ſhe experienced the moſt cruel perſecutions. The viſit which the chancellor paid her at the Val-de-Grace, is, perhaps, unexemplified in hiſtory, on account of the circumſtances which accompanied it; for her ſtrong box, her preſſes were all forced open and ſearched; the impudence and daringneſs were even carried ſo far as to ranſack her pockets, and to look under her neck handkerchief: her moſt faithful ſervants were taken away from her, ſome caſt in gaol, others horridly uſed. Hardly did the king deign to ſpeak with her, or viſit her, and it is to the greateſt chance Lewis XIV. owed his birth.

IF we are to believe the annals of the times, thoſe perſecutions, and ſuch ſtrange proceedings towards a queen, the beauty, graces, and ſweetneſs of temper of whom were worthy another lot, took their riſe from love. The cardinal of Richelieu, that miniſter ſo abſolute, who was truly the king under Lewis the XIIIth's name, had been audacious enough to caſt a wiſhful eye on the queen, from whom his paſſion met with no other return but contempt? It was therefore

to avenge himſelf of that rebuke, and at the ſame time to make that princeſs ſenſible how wrong ſhe was to reject his addreſſes that he thus perſecuted her.

To that ſame ſentiment again are we to aſcribe the diviſions which aroſe at that period between France and England, and which occaſioned ſo much bloodſhed. The duke of Buckingham, who ruled over Great Britain, while Richelieu did the ſame in France, came into the latter kingdom at the occaſion of his maſter's marriage. He was no leſs daring than the cardinal; he was bold enough to fall in love with the queen, and no leſs ſo to tell her, in a converſation he had the ſkill to procure himſelf with her. The marchioneſs of Senecey, lady of honour, tired of ſeeing that converſation laſt ſo long, placed herſelf in the queen's arm-chair, who that day was in bed, only with a view of hindering the duke of coming too near it; and as ſhe ſaw that the duke continued to act the paſſionate lover, ſhe told him with a ſevere look, "Hold your tongue, ſir, a queen of France is not to be ſpoken to in that ſtrain."

THIS fact, which ſeems ſomewhat romantic, is atteſted by Nani. Mrs. de Motteville ſeems even to confirm it; for, ſhe ſays, that when the court went as far as Amiens to accompany Mada-

Madam Henrietta, who was going to marry the king of England, the duke of Buckingham was lucky enough to have a moment's private converſation with the queen, during which that princeſs was obliged to exclaim and call for her equerry. We ſee likewiſe in her memoirs that when that envoy took leave of the queen he kiſſed her gown, and let drop ſome tears. Mrs. de Motteville ſays it was lady de Launay, not lady Senecey, who was near the queen's bed when the duke, tranſported with his paſſion, having left the princeſs Henrietta at Bonlogne, came back under pretence of ſome new affairs, but ſolely to ſee the queen. It is further ſaid that the king, who, at the return of that journey, was informed of every thing which was tranſacted, *and even more*, diſcharged ſome of the queen's ſervants from her ſervice, among others her equerry, her phyſician, and Laporte, of whom we have got ſome memoirs.

THE cardinal, who was ſtill ſooner informed of all this than the king, conceived the greateſt jealouſy of it, and was not long before he made his rival experience the effects of it. The duke having ſhortly after got himſelf named to a ſecond embaſſy for France, merely to have an opportunity of ſeeing the queen; he was forbidden to ſet his foot into the kingdom. Hence the

ſuccours granted to the Rochelleſe by the Engliſh, which we ſhall have another opportunity to mention hereafter. Thus it is we find the fact related in an Italian author. "Richelieu "and Buckingham were appointed one againſt "the other barefacedly, for reaſons kept ſo much "the more under ſecret as they were raſh in "themſelves; and afterwards the people had "to pay out of their pockets the follies and "quarrels of thoſe two rivals."

MR. HUME heſitates not to aſcribe the rupture of England with France to the rivalſhip of the two miniſters. The cardinal's jealouſy was ſo much ſtronger, as he knew the duke had been ſeen and received with favourable eyes; for that hiſtorian maintains, that the apparent merit of the duke made ſome impreſſion on the queen, and that ſhe permitted herſelf, at leaſt, "that attachment of the ſoul which conceals "ſo many dangers under a delicious ſurface. "However, the duke having ſworn he ſhould "ſee the queen in ſpite of all the power of "France;" he excited a war, the conſequences of which did not turn much to his honour. Beaten in the Iſle of Rhé, and having loſt part of his troops, he was under the neceſſity of returning to England diſhonoured, and a little more hated than before. That falſe ſtep irritated

tated ſtill more the parliament, already at variance with king Charles I. and it was with the greateſt indignation they ſaw the people were "the victim of the frivolous gallantries of a "favourite, and of his childiſh caprices."

ANOTHER author aſſerts, that while the cardinal Richelieu was beſieging la-Rochelle, the Rochelleſe ſent to England for new aſſiſtance; and that the duke of Buckingham, animated with all the keeneſt ſtimula of love and jealouſy, and eſpecially with the deſire of repairing his precedent defeat, armed quickly a conſiderable fleet, which might have occaſioned the ruin of the cardinal's fortune. They ſay, that in this criſis they compelled the queen to write to the duke, to beg of him to ſuſpend his armament; and, that to this letter was owing the taking of la-Rochelle.

THE duke of Buckingham's family name was George Villers. As a favourite, he had ſucceeded in the mind of James I. king of England, the earl of Somerſet. He was the firſt nobleman, who was created duke, in England, without being kin, or related to crowned heads.—It was the unfortunate Charles I. then prince of Wales, whom the duke of Buckingham accompanied to Spain, as might have been a romantic hero, in order to court an infant. The miſſing

of that marriage was owing, in a great meaſure, to the duke of Buckingham, who, having became paſſionately in love with the ducheſs of Olivares, attempted violence to ſeduce her, and was imprudent enough to uſe very bad language with the duke of Olivares firſt miniſter of ſtate, and who, at that time, enjoyed all the poſſible authority in Spain.

Let us return to queen Ann of Autriche. It ſeemed, when that princeſs inſpired love, as if it were only to entail ſome misfortune after it. The marquis of Jerſey, who, united with his perſonal graces all the talents and the ornaments of the beſt cultivated mind, and was, beſides, a favourite of the great Condé, was imprudent enough to ſuffer himſelf to be ſeized with a fooliſh paſſion for the queen, and had the additional fatuity to imagine that princeſs did not ſee him with an indifferent eye. He was bold enough to ſpeak, nay to write; and, in ſhort, in a fit of his phrenetic paſſion he carried things ſo far as to hide himſelf even behind the curtains of the queen's bed-ſide. This princeſs, full of indignation, forbade him ever to appear before her; a puniſhment infinitely too mild when compared to the audacity of the offence. Nevertheleſs, the prince of Condé, proud, abſolute, and who paid regard to nothing, took openly the part of

his

his favourite; he inſiſted even, they ſay, in the moſt commanding manner, that the queen ſhould admit Jerſey in her preſence. This action, which we ſhall have another opportunity to mention in a more proper place, accelerated the prince's impriſonment. Another author relates this fact with this difference, that he does not mention any thing about Jerſey hiding himſelf by the queen's bed-ſide, nor that he had been forbidden to appear in her preſence on the occaſion.

If we were to conſult and truſt to the anecdotes of thoſe times, we might be led to believe that Ann of Autriche was not always ſo ſevere as we have repreſented her. The libellous pamphlets which were publiſhed at the time of the Fronde, accuſe that princeſs with having had a little more than good-nature for cardinal Mazarine. But, there would be a great deal of injuſtice in giving credit to libels dictated by wickedneſs; though, without entering into particulars deeply enough to determine of what ſpecies was the queen's attachment for that miniſter, or how far ſhe may have been weak enough to carry it; it cannot be denied, however, that that attachment was extreme. To that paſſion are indeed to be aſcribed the misfortune of France during the minority of Lewis XIV. and eſpecially the civil wars

of the Fronde, which, in this collection, we ſhall have many opportunities to ſpeak of.

Anno 1650.

B.

BABYLONIA.

THE celebrated ſuſpended gardens, or terraces of Babylonia, which the Greeks reckon among the ſeven wonders of the world, never owed their exiſtence, if we are to credit certain authors, to any thing elſe but the love of a certain Syrian king for his wife. Her name, they ſay, was Amyta, daughter of Aſtyages, king of Media, a country full of hills and foreſts. As that princeſs, who had been brought up there, had taken a great liking for woods, ſhe perſuaded Nebuchadnezzar, her huſband, to try in his plantations to imitate nature. Hence came thoſe celebrated terraces covered with trees, ſome of which were even eight cubits in circumference, and fifty feet high. The gardens formed a ſquare, each ſide of which was 400 feet. They formed ſeveral large terraces. The whole bulk was carried by arches, on which they had built, ſo that no water could penetrate through.

Anno——See Mr. Rollin's Ancient Hiſtory.

BANIER.

BANIER, a Swediſh general, a worthy diſciple of the great Guſtavus, and who was the glorious ſupporter of his maſter's glory, ſuffered himſelf to be ſubdued by love, at an age when generally that paſſion ſhould ſubſide, and in a circumſtance when grief ſhould have had the whole poſſeſſion of his heart. He had juſt loſt his lady to whom he was tenderly attached. As he accompanied the remains of ſo dear a perſon to the grave at Erford, he was, on a ſudden, ſeized with a violent paſſion for a young princeſs of Bade, which chance put in his way. From that very moment, war, glory, country, every thing, in fine, which had hitherto been ſo dear to him, became totally indifferent. He had no thought but of his miſtreſs, and expoſed himſelf moſt raſhly to go and ſee her in Arolt's caſtle. He did nothing but keep open table to have the pleaſure to drink the health of the fair who enchanted him. On the day he received the marquis of Bade, his future father-in-law's conſent, he gave a magnificent entertainment: he had two hundred great guns fired, the noiſe of which were heard as far as Caſſel, where the inhabitants were ſo fully perſuaded that there was a battle,

that both the people and the clergy repaired all to church, and fell on their knees to pray The marriage took place. Banier, wholly taken up with his new wife, left his lieutenants with the care and conduct of the military operations. He lived but a few months after that marriage he had ſo ardently wiſhed for. Some writers have given it for a fact he was poiſoned; but the true poiſon that killed him was nothing elſe but a ſeries of pleaſures too powerful for the weakneſs generally attending on ſuch an age.

Anno 1641.

BASSOMPIERRE. (THE MARSHAL OF)

IF it be true that love procured ſome ſweets to the marſhal Baſſompierre, it cannot be denied that he procured him too many a diſgrace. There is no one but has heard of his connections with Miſs d'Entragues, ſiſter to the marchioneſs of Verneuil. A ſhort time after the growth of that paſſion, Baſſompierre, pulling his handkerchief out of his pocket, let fall, without knowing it, one of his miſtreſs's letters. The marquis of Cœuvres picked it up ſlyly, and gave it to the king. This ſoon became the court's talk. The marſhal ſent a perſon to the marquis to aſk him for

for the return of the letter, and on his refuſal to comply with the demand, he had him called in a duel by the marquis of Crequy, although the king had forbidden him to have any quarrel on account of that affair. The duel did not take place, becauſe the king prevented it; but his majeſty ſent word at the ſame time to Meſſrs. de Baſſompierre and Crequy not to appear before him.

THAT diſgrace, the firſt indeed which Baſſompierre had ever experienced on account of his paſſion, was not however of long duration: but it was followed by another of a more ſerious nature, and which was little ſhort of being the total ruin of his perſon. The king had charged him with two letters to carry from himſelf, the one to the marchioneſs of Verneuil, the other to the counteſs of Moret. Baſſompierre carried firſt that which was for the marchioneſs, becauſe he was ſure there to meet Miſs d'Engtragues. He was weak enough to mention he had alſo another letter for the counteſs of Moret. The marchioneſs wiſhed to ſee it, and put in action her ſiſter's influence over Baſſompierre's mind, to obtain the gratification of her curioſity. The lover, who could deny nothing, gave the letter. After it had been read, the queſtion was to ſeal it up again. The marchioneſs maintained it was an eaſy thing

in having a cypher engraved ſimilar to that which was on the king's letter. Unluckily for himſelf Baſſompierre intruſted one of his ſervants with the execution of that errant, and more unluckily ſtill, this man applied to the king's own engraver for it. The ſervant inſtantly was of courſe ſtopped, but he had however the dexterity to make his eſcape, leaving the letter behind him, which remained in the hands of the engraver. Baſſompierre, fully ſenſible of the danger he was in, ran to the counteſs of Moret, informed her of what had happened to him, with this difference only, he took upon himſelf the unſealing of the letter as a miſtake of his, thinking it was a *billet doux* from one of his miſtreſſes. The counteſs believed it, and wrote the ſame to his majeſty, who laughed heartily at it, and the whole very luckily for Baſſompierre.

In the midſt of thoſe troubles and difficulties, the two lovers affairs went on very well. Miſs d'Entragues was daughter and ſiſter to two women who had never been very cruel. When ſhe had taken the reſolution of imitating them in their conduct, ſhe agreed with her lover that he ſhould get an appartment next to her's, and have a door of communication made in it, through which in the night ſhe might creep into his room. Thus it was that, for a great while, our two lovers enjoyed

joyed thoſe ſorts of pleaſures which are ſo much enhanced by the difficulty of procuring them.

A LITTLE accident, riſible enough, heightened ſtill more the ſweets of that intrigue. One night, as Baſſompierre had ſupped at Mr. le Grand's, he took, in going out, one of his mantles by miſtake, on which was the ſtar of the order, and went as uſual to his rendezvous. The duke of Guiſe, who was likewiſe in love with Miſs d'Entragues, and jealous of Baſſompierre, had the Marſhal's actions watched by his ſervants. Theſe ſaw him go in at and come out from his miſtreſs's; but they were deceived by the mantle, and they thought it was Mr. le Grand. The duke of Guiſe did not fail the next morning to call at Baſſompierre's and inform him of the adventure, who ſhammed being very angry, but laughed inwardly very heartily. His miſtreſs being informed of it likewiſe in good time, made a jeſt of it with Mr. le Grand, who took care to ſay nothing which could undeceive the duke of Guiſe.

HOWEVER, as Baſſompierre took hint from that circumſtance, that there were people engaged in watching his actions, he was obliged to take a little more care. A ſhort time after, an accident of more ſerious a nature came and interrupted his pleaſures. Lady d'Entragues, having taken notice

notice one night that her daughter was not in her bed, called her with great ſcreams: the daughter returned and the door of communication was ſtopped up. This misfortune did not laſt long, Baſſompierre made his peace with the mother; and, ſometime after, the daughter perceived ſhe bore in her breaſt ſenſible marks of her failings; the conſequence of which was, that ſhe was expelled from home; an action which made much noiſe abroad, and occaſioned much ſorrow to the young lady. In order to comfort her, her lover made her a promiſe of marriage, with which ſhe appeaſed her mother; but ſhe did not ſay ſhe had given her lover contra-declarations ſuch as he would have them.

In the mean while, Baſſompierre having diſpleaſed the count of Soiſſons, this prince ſent for lady d'Entragues, reproached her that Baſſompierre diſgraced both her and her daughter, and inſiſted upon her forbidding him her houſe. In order to juſtify herſelf, lady d'Entragues ſhewed the promiſe of marriage. The prince thinking then he had found the means of puniſhing the man he hated ſo mortally, enticed lady d'Entragues to attack Baſſompierre in the officiality court. The marſhal appealed from all the proceedings to Sens, from Sens to the Parliament, and was at laſt

laſt ſent back to the Parliament of Rouen, in order to receive a definitive judgment. The Entragues family, foreſeeing the Parliament of Rouen would not be favourable to them, excepted againſt that Parliament, under pretence that moſt of the members who compoſed it were relations to Baſſompierre: and, without informing the marſhal of it, they applied to the court of Rome, from which they obtained the appointing of three French prelates to pronounce judgment in the cauſe. One of thoſe three prelates, whoſe irregular conduct was not, at that very juncture, the object of public approbation, having been bribed with money, pronounced (he alone, and without being aſſiſted by taking the opinion of his two brethren) a ſentence which condemned Baſſompierre to execute the promiſe of marriage. This judgment was reverſed by the Parliament, and the law-ſuit ſtopped there, not without having occaſioned much ſorrow to the marſhal, and affected his purſe ſtill more. It needs not to be ſaid, that from that time all connection was at an end with Miſs d'Entragues.

SOMETIME after, the marſhal croſſing in the Louvre, the guards-hall, met in his way the ſame Miſs d'Entragues; and, as he bowed to her, ſhe ſaid to him, "Sir, I think you ſhould in duty or-

"der

" der the honours of lady-marſhal to be paid to " to me."—" Alas, miſs," ſaid he, " why do " you take a nick-name ?"—Offended at the reply, ſhe reproached him—" he was the greateſt " dunce at court."—" So I ſhould, indeed," ſaid he, " had I been ſuch a fool as to marry you."

THE ſpite which the count of Soiſſons entertained againſt Baſſompierre, and which was the occaſion of his going to law with the Entragues family, had moſt likely taken its riſe from the marſhal happening to be diſtractedly beloved by Louiſa-Margarita de Lorraine, wife to Francis prince of Conti, and brother to the count of Soiſſons. However, after the death of the prince of Conti, his widow united herſelf in a marriage of conſcience with the marſhal, and had a ſon by him who was known afterwards by the name of *La Tour*. Here is what he himſelf ſays of that ſon, in his memoirs written by himſelf. " La Tour, the ſon of a princeſs and of an eminent " perſonage, ſet out to go with Gaſſion, on the " 30th of April, 1640."—The marſhal was arreſted and put in the Baſtille, in February, 1631. The princeſs, his wife, who a few days before had been exiled to Eu, died with grief on account of that event in April following. That death was celebrated by the poet Malleville, in his elegy

elegy called *Armide and Daphnis* where we read the following lines :

Quand Armide eut appris qu'un funeſte ſéjour
Lui retenoit l'objet qui cauſoit ſon amour ;
Et que le beau Daphnis, la gloire des fidelles,
Perdoit la liberté qu'il ôtoit aux plus belles,
Elle accuſa les Dieux d'un ſi prompt changement—
——————————————— &c.
Dès-lors qu'elle reçut tant d'injures ſenſibles,
Son eſprit & ſon corps fûrent incompatibles,
Son juſte déplaiſir ſa conſtance dompta,
Et ſon propre courage au tombeau la porta.

The meaning of which might thus be rendered : " When Armide had learnt that a fatal abode " with-held from her the object of her love ; and " that the handſome Daphnis, the pride of the " faithful fair, was deprived of his liberty, he who " uſed to deprive them of theirs, ſhe accuſed the " Æthĕrians for ſo ſudden a change———&c.

" No ſooner did ſhe receive ſo many keen injuries, but her ſoul and her body could no longer " be friendly ; her well-grounded diſcontent got " the better at laſt of her reſolution, and her " very courage carried her to the grave !"

One evening in Germany, as Baſſompierre, then in the prime of his youth, was returning from the ſiege of Buda, and in company with the Roſwonn, who had commanded the troops of the

the emperor againſt the Turks, that Roſwonn propoſed him, after a long and ſplendid dinner they had made at Prague, to accompany him in a party of pleaſure, and ſhare it with him for the ſum of one hundred ducats a head. The object was to go and amuſe themſelves with the two daughters of a certain landlord, who had engaged to deliver them for the ſake of two hundred ducats. Baſſompierre, enchanted with the propoſal, ſets off with the general. They left their carriage and their ſervants at a pretty good diſtance from the houſe. When they were got in, the Roſwonn aſked the father to execute the bargain he had made with him. The poor man, who had very likely made that bargain when in liquor, had poſitively forgot he had ever made ſuch an one; and, accordingly declared in a firm and reſolute tone of voice, that he never would condeſcend to the baſe infamy of delivering up his daughters, who were then preſent. The general putting himſelf in poſture of taking, by force, what was refuſed to him: the father opened the window and cried "murder!" The Roſwonn immediately putting a dagger up to the landlord's throat, threatened to kill him if he ſaid a word, and at the ſame time urged Baſſompierre to begin while he kept the father in awe. That nobleman, although

though animated with all the fire of a youthful age, could not reſolve himſelf to commit ſo mean an action. The general, lifting up his ſhoulders at that backwardneſs, told him to come and hold the dagger on the throat of the father, while he himſelf ſhould begin and give the example. He was already on the point of compleating his undertaking in ſpite of the cries and tears of the girl, whom he held faſt; when the mob, who had gathered on the firſt exclamations of the father, arrived before the houſe. The Roſwonn, fully ſenſible of the danger which threatened them, placed the landlord between him and Baſſompierre; and, holding each of them a dagger under his coat, threatened to kill him if he did not facilitate their evaſion. The poor fellow accompanied them, in that ſituation, through the mob, in aſſuring them nothing was the matter. But, no ſooner had he left them but he began to cry "murder!" with all his might. Then a ſhower of ſtones began to fall on the two noblemen, who were obliged to take to their heels. The Roſwonn received one, however, on his loins, which knocked him down; luckily for him Baſſompierre had time enough to help him to get up again; and, having reached their carriage, which now was at hand,

hand, they eſcaped, at laſt, the fury of four hundred people who were in purſuit of them.

Anno 1599.

BEAUSERGENT.

VINCENT BEAUSERGENT was the ſon of Vincent Beauſergent, who kept a public-houſe at Nogent-le-Roi, and of Marguerit Dubocq, who changed her ſtation of ſervant in the ſame public-houſe for that of miſtreſs of it. Some have pretended that this child was an adulterous one, and was born during the marriage of his father with Noel Chevalier, his firſt wife; but it is a diſcuſſion totally foreign to our ſubject. Beauſergent, being grown a young man, was placed as a clerk to an attorney, and governed for a great while the buſineſs of Mr. Garanger, an attorney in the parliament. His ſkill in that profeſſion had already procured him a tolerably genteel fortune, when he got acquainted with one of his maſter's clients, named Jolivet, a man overwhelmed in debts. Being invited to dine at Jolivet's houſe, Beauſergent ſaw there, for the firſt time, his daughter, a young girl juſt turned of eighteen, and poſſeſſed of the greateſt beauty. Beauſergent's heart was

ſtruck;

ſtruck; he endeavoured to pleaſe Magdalain Jolivet. In order to make a more rapid progreſs in the heart of that young perſon, he paid her father's debts. Gratitude, and perhaps a more tender ſenſation ſtill, engaged that girl to anſwer the ſentiments of Beauſergent. But, whether it was ſkill in her, or whether it was virtue, ſhe gave way to her lover's deſires, but juſt as much as was neceſſary to inflame him the more. She ſucceeded. He propoſed marriage; and, as he could not be conſidered but as an advantageous match, his propoſal was joyfully accepted. The deed and ſettlement was drawn and executed at St. Denis, the diſpenſe of the three bans obtained and bought of the biſhoprick of Chartres, and the marriage celebrated in the church of Eſclu-ſelles. Beauſergent enjoyed openly, before all the inhabitants of his native place, Nogent-le-Roi, the rights and privileges of huſband with his well-known wife: his mother and his ſiſters treated Magdalain Jolivet as, and called her by the name of, daughter and ſiſter. That way of living laſted thus but a few years only. Beau-ſergent, who made rapid progreſs towards for-tune, having purchaſed the office of king's ſe-cretary, and treaſurer of the regiment of the French guards, had required that his marriage ſhould be kept a ſecret in Paris, ſo that his wife

continued

continued to lodge at her father's, while he rented, for himſelf, a houſe in another part of the town.

CONSTANCY is not the favourite virtue of ſweet-hearts; and ſtill leſs, ſay they, is it one among married folks. Inſenſibly, Beauſergent grew tired of his wife. The great fortune he had acquired inſpired him with higher views. After having artfully thrown ſome doubts on the validity of his marriage, he broke openly with Magdalain Jolivet and left her. A ſhort time after, ſhe heard of bans of marriage having been proclaimed publickly in church, between her fugitive and one miſs Catharine Marlot. After having much lamented her fate and ſhed many tears, ſhe had an oppoſition lodged in the hands of the parſon againſt thoſe bans. Beauſergent had it in his power to ruin, in an inſtant, if he would, the father and mother of Jolivet, by means of the ſums he had advanced them formerly. He did not fail to threaten them of putting his rights into execution, if a renunciation was not inſtantly given to the oppoſition formed againſt his marriage; and, in order to corroborate his threats, he ballanced them with an offer of eight thouſand livres in caſh, and the burning of all the writings which could prove his being their creditor, if they would comply with his requeſt.

The

The ſad ſituation of a father and a mother, who were dear to her, engaged Magdalain Jolivet to deſiſt of her oppoſition; but ſhe did not do it, without taking, at the ſame time, all the poſſible precautions that this act of deſiſtance ſhould not impair her rights.

After the nuptials of Beauſergent with Miſs Marlot had been celebrated, Jolivet began to enter an action againſt him, and make the proper purſuits to prove the validity of her marriage; but ſhe did not know that the deceitfulneſs of her run-away had deprived her of all the poſſible means of ſucceſs in that attempt. The original copy of her deed of ſettlement was no more to be found; the regiſter book of the pariſh of Eſcluſelles did not mention a word of the marriage, neither did thoſe of the dioceſe of Chartres contain the minute of the diſpenſe of bans which had been granted. All thoſe juſtificative pieces had been fraudulently got away by the perfidious Beauſergent. After a long and tedious law ſuit, a judgment was given at laſt which declared good the marriage of Beauſergent with Catherine Marlot, and condemned however Beauſergent to one thouſand pounds damages, and intereſt, towards Magdalain Jollivet; a ſad reparation indeed for the loſs of her honour, and of the heart of a man to whom ſhe had made the greateſt

of

of ſacrifices, that of her perſon. Her beauty and her misfortunes turned all the hearts in her favour; Beauſergent had the blame and ill-will of all the public for ſo diſgraceful an affair, whoſe character was much hurt by his abandoning a woman who, though without a fortune, was undoubtedly worthy of a better fate.

Anno 1701.

BEDOYERE. (Mr. de la)

M. La BEDOYERE, ſon of the attorney-general of the parliament of Britanny, became advocate-general of the court of Aydes at Paris, where he acquired a great name by his talents and his eloquence. As he was then very young ſtill, and far remote from his friends, we will not pretend to ſay that his morals were quite ſo pure as his ſtyle. As he frequented much the play-houſes and eſpecially the Italian one, he got, at that laſt place, acquainted with Agathe Sticotti, the daughter of Pantaloon, and a dancer in the Ballets. The paſſion he conceived for that girl was ſo ſtrong that, regardleſs of his character and employment, and wiſhing to avoid the reproaches of his relations, who were calling him back, he took the reſolution to marry his miſtreſs.

But

But how to obtain a publication of bans without the conſent of his friends; that was the great difficulty. In order to ſucceed, he changed both his name and that of his intended bride. Under that alteration, the parſon of St. Paul publiſhed the bans: that of St. Sauveur having not ſhewn himſelf ſo facile, M. La Bedoyere feigned a dwelling on the pariſh of St. Laurent, and the parſon of that pariſh granted, without difficulty, the publication of the bans. Mr. La Bedoyere's friends were no ſooner appriſed of that marriage, but they brought a writ of error againſt it. The ſon, La Bedoyere himſelf, pleaded in his own defence: his eloquence, naturally vigorous, was ſtill more vehement when animated by love. But, unluckily for him, the judges, removing from themſelves all kind of prepoſſeſſion, pronounced his marriage void and abuſively contracted, and ordered the parties ſhould have no longer intercourſe together.

THIS affair gave birth to a well known and very intereſting novel, which was publiſhed a ſhort time after.

Anno 1745.

BELISARIUS.

THERE is no one but knows the name of Beliſarius, eſpecially ſince it was ſo much celebrated in a work which occaſioned much rumour at the time of its publication. They who are converſant with hiſtory, conſider that great man as an illuſtrious warrior, on account of the victories he obtained in Africa and Italy, and of his having been ſo lucky to bring priſoners to Conſtantinople, Gelimer, the king of the Vandals, and Vitiges, the king of the Goths. Theſe tranſactions took place under the empire of Juſtinian. The tale of Mr. Marmontel, repreſents Beliſarius as a philoſopher; but that warrior, that philoſopher, had foibles; and that is the ſide of his ſtory which ſuits our plan and our purpoſe.

BELISARIUS had married one Antonina, daughter of a mother, who, according to Procopius, had proſtituted herſelf upon the ſtage. The ſame author aſſerts, that Antonina ſhewed herſelf the worthy daughter of ſuch a mother, and lead ſo diſſolute a life, during her youthful days, that ſhe had even ſeveral children before ſhe was married. "No ſooner was ſhe wedded," adds Procopius, "but ſhe violated the ſanctity "of that ſtate by her many adulteries. She took,

"how-

"however, great care to conceal them; not out "of the reſpect ſhe bore to her huſband, (for, re- "ſpect for any one ſhe never had, nor ſhame for "her infamies ſhe ever felt) but only out of the "dread ſhe entertained for the empreſs." That apprehenſion having in a ſhort time ſubſided, Antonina gave a free courſe to all her paſſions. That which made more eclat was, the love ſhe conceived for Theodoſius, whom Beliſarius had adopted, and who lived at his houſe. "In the "beginning, however, ſhe laid with him but ſe- "cretly; but, at laſt, ſhe did ſo in preſence of "her ſervants, and even of her waiting-woman, "as her paſſion was then ſo furious, that nothing "could any longer reſtrain it." Now, it belongs to our plan, to paint the degree of empire and aſcendance which that deſpicable woman had over the heart and the mind of her huſband, and how many faults, nay, even crimes, ſhe forced him to commit.

A SERVANT maid, named Macedonia, having dared to reveal to Beliſarius the miſconduct of his wife, and having ſupported and corroborated her aſſertion with the aſſeveration of two more ſervants; Antonina had the ſkill to deſtroy all thoſe reports; and, having obtained that theſe three ſervants ſhould be delivered up to her, ſhe had them all put to death.

An officer of character, named Conſtantinus, who was ſincerely attached to his general, Beliſarius, adviſed him to inflict ſome puniſhment on Antonina for her diſorderly and ſcandalous behaviour. Beliſarius was weak enough to impart to his wife not only the advice, but alſo the name of the adviſer. That woman, who was familiar with crimes, was daring enough to inſiſt on the death of Conſtantinus, and Beliſarius had not the power to withſtand her requeſt.

Antonina had had, before her marriage, a ſon whoſe name was Photius. This young man ſaw, with a ſenſe of the greateſt indignation, the behaviour of his mother, and the credit of Theodoſius her lover. Having taken the reſolution of putting an end to ſo great a ſcandal, he took the opportunity of Beliſarius making war againſt Coſroez, and he ſucceeded ſo far, as to get him fully inlightened on his wife's corrupted and infamous conduct. Then Antonina was thrown into priſon by her huſband's orders, and Photius got Theodoſius ſhut up and narrowly confined in another priſon in Cilicia. But, all thoſe diſpoſitions were ſoon altered. The empereſs Theodora, whom we ſhall have an opportunity to ſpeak of in another place, was the protectreſs of Antonina; and ſhe had her reaſons to protect crime and libertiniſm. She compelled, therefore, Beliſarius

ſarius to reconcile himſelf with his wife. The unfortunate Photius was the victim of that reconciliation: he was confined in a priſon, whence having made his eſcape three years after, he was obliged to make himſelf a monk, in order to avoid the perſecutions of Theodora, as well as of his cruel mother. To compleat the diſgrace of Beliſarius's character, Antonina had her dear Theodoſius reſtored to her; but he did not live long after that.

It is well known, that calumny cauſed Beliſarius to loſe both the favour of the emperor, and the fruit of his ſervices; that a part of his perſonal eſtates was taken away from him, and that he ſaw himſelf reduced to the condition of a private individual. Now, the fact is, that he was reſtored to his priſtine ſituation in life, upon no other condition, but his promiſing the empreſs, that he would always in future be the moſt humble ſlave of Antonina. From that time, he kept his word moſt ſcrupulouſly, and "ſubmitted "himſelf to the will of his wife, whom he was "ſtill much in love with and paſſionate for, al-"though ſhe was far turned above ſixty." He gave a very ſtrong and convincing proof of that blind ſubmiſſion, when he gave his approbation to what Antonina had done in regard to his daughter, as we are going to relate. Theodora

wiſhing to marry her grandſon, Anaſtaſius, with Baliſarius's daughter, and being afraid of dying before that general returned from Italy, made Anaſtaſius lay with Baliſarius's daughter, in order that that marriage ſhould not fail. That intercourſe laſted about eight months, and publicly. The death of Theodora altered every thing. Antonina would no longer have Anaſtaſius for her daughter's huſband, although ſhe was thereby diſhonoured; and Beliſarius had the cowardice to ſubſcribe to that determination.

A MAN, they ſay, muſt be a very great philoſopher to ſuffer with patience the miſconduct of his wife. Conſidered in this point of view, Beliſarius was a philoſopher certainly, and a very great philoſopher indeed: but this philoſophy is not that which forms the theme of Mr. Marmontel's tale.

Anno ——.

BIRON (CHARLES OF)

GODFREY of Caumont, had married Marguerite of Luſtruc, widow of the marſhal of St. Andrew. There came from that marriage an only daughter, whoſe beauty and richneſs ſtimulated the deſires of ſeveral young noblemen. James of Eſcars, lord of the manor of La Vauguyon,

Vauguyon, tutor to that young lady, being more ſtudious of his own intereſts than the happineſs of his pupil, obliged her to marry Charles of Eſcars, his ſon, known by the name of Clarency. That marriage threw in the utmoſt deſpair many an aſpirer, one of whom, among others, was Charles of Biron, who ſince did ſo many important ſervices to the ſtate. This young man was paſſionately in love with Miſs Caumont: his hope had been, that the reputation of Armand Biron, his father, might procure him the preference over his rivals. When he had loſt all hope, he thought of the means of taking vengeance of his happy rival, and it was not long before he found the opportunity he wiſhed for. Having had a ſmall altercation with him, he ſent him a cartel to meet him with two more of his friends. The place appointed for the duel, was behind the ſuburb St. Marcel. Clarency took for his ſeconds, Charles Eſtiſſac, the only ſon and heir of the great family of that name, along with one Montpeſat. Biron was cunning enough to ſituate himſelf, as well as his ſeconds, in ſuch a manner, as that the ſnow, which fell abundantly, ſhould fall into his adverſaries eyes; which was the cauſe of their being all three killed.

THROUGH this cruel accident, Anna of Caumont became a widow, and returned under the

authority of James of Eſcars, her tutor. The viſcount of Turenne, one of the king of Navarre's chief partiſans, courted very much this young and rich widow. But the duke of Mayenne was ſkilful enough to have her carried off, in order to marry her with his ſon. The tutor complained loudly of it; and the king, Henry III. ordered the widow to be ſet again at liberty. The duke of Mayenne delivered her up into the mother-queen's hands, in hope that this princeſs ſhould truſt her to the ducheſs of Nemours, his mother. But, in ſpite of all theſe precautions, the marriage did not take place; and Anna of Caumont, married Francis of Orléans-Langueville, earl St. Paul.

Anno 1586.

BLANCHE.

BLANCHE, queen of France, was the queen of Lewis VIII. and mother to St. Louis. We read in hiſtory, that the beauty of that princeſs made a lively impreſſion on the heart of Thibault V. count of Champaign. The lines and the ſongs which he compoſed on his love, and many a remnant of which are ſtill to be read on the walls of his ſeveral caſtles, eſpecially at Provins;

vins ; every thing proves to a demonſtration, that Thibault was paſſionately in love with the queen; and, every thing induces us to believe, that he was perfectly unſucceſsful in his love. There is a great preſumption that love began to kindle in Thibault's heart a good while before the death of Lewis VIII. It is even ſaid, that this prince, having ſhewed ſome ſymptoms of jealouſy, and done an inſult to Thibault, was poiſoned. Whether Thibault did poiſon him or not, we cannot tell ; but the fact is, however, he was charged with that crime. But that death did not procure him more happineſs. Blanche never liſtened to his loving tale, except when the intereſt of the ſtate required it ; and even then, ſhe never was charged with any failing. The maliciouſneſs of her enemies, however, entails one only of that ſort on her reputation, which is moſt likely deſtitute of all foundation, but which, nevertheleſs, ſerved much to increaſe the deſpair of Thibault. The queen, they ſay, had a great regard for the Roman cardinal, who was the pope's legate : thoſe regards, as well as the aſſiduities of the prelate, were maliciouſly interpreted ; for, the ſtudents of the univerſity " publiſhed ſongs and li- " bellous lines, which tended to blacken the " queen-regent's reputation, as well as that of " the cardinal, who adviſed her."

THIBAULT, enraged to ſee himſelf deſpiſed, and ſtill more ſo for having a rival, whom he fancied to be the happy man he wiſhed himſelf ſo much to be, threw himſelf on the ſide of the princes, who were endeavouring to deprive Blanche of the regency. It became, therefore, of the greateſt moment, for the queen to detach the count of Champaign from a league which was already but too powerful. A mere flattering compliment from her mouth, was ſufficient to bring him back at her feet, and make him return to his duty.

THE confederates whom Thibault had forſaken, and whom he was betraying to pleaſe the queen, did all in their power to gain him again to their party. The duke of Britanny ſent him word, that he would give him in marriage, or to any prince of his houſe he would name, the Princeſs Iſabella his daughter, if he would but reſume the intereſts of the league. The offer was a brilliant one: Thibault, ſeduced by it, concluded the bargain, and the day for the ceremony of that marriage was fixed, with the place where it was to be performed, which was appointed at the monaſtery of Valſecru, near Château-Thierry. The regent-queen, who was informed of every thing, and who was ſenſible how eſſential it was to hinder an union, the conſequences of which were capable

capable to overturn the whole kingdom, laid aſide for a moment her dignity, and repaired to Thibault's. By a ſmall encouragement ſhe gave then to his paſſion for her, ſhe made him inſtantly change his reſolution. She had but to employ *à-propos*, now an obliging word, then a favourable glance, and by ſuch and the like trifling encouragements, this able princeſs had poor Thibault always at her command. For, this man, whom the leaſt favour could always inflame more and more, never failed to hope to arrive at laſt to that happineſs he inceſſantly aſpired at; and he was thus feeding himſelf with thoſe fooliſh and chimerical hopes, when he was forced to renounce them on a ſudden in a very diſagreeable manner. The young count of Artois, the ſon of queen Blanche, angry at the favour and boldneſs of the count of Champaign, ordered one day one of his officers to throw him a ſoft cheeſe in the face. Thibault then, thought he could no longer ſtay at court after ſuch an affront.

As an additional misfortune, the confederate princes, who were ſtill more enraged againſt the count ſince his laſt recanting, entered his territories of Champaign, and put every thing there to fire and ſword. The pretence the confederates had taken for that irruption was, ſaid they, to revenge the death of Lewis VIII. whom they ac-

cuſed Thibault of having poiſoned. An obſervation which might prove that ſuch accuſation was groundleſs, is, that the king marched againſt the rebels, and obliged them to retire.

A SHORT time after, the count having become king of Navarre, he took up arms againſt the king. He was ſoon obliged to yield, and to accept the conditions they would lay on him. Queen Blanche, with whom he had an interview after that treaty, having repreſented to him, that he was indebted to the king for the preſervation of his eſtates, reproached him at the ſame time for his ungratefulneſs, in terms ſo ſtrong, that being unable to deny any thing to that princeſs, "who kept his heart in chains, he anſwered her "with a deep ſigh—madam, my heart, my body, "and all my poſſeſſions are at your command; "and there is nothing which could be agreeable "to you, but I would willingly do; never, if "pleaſe God, againſt yourſelf nor your's I ſhall "go." This proteſtation from his mouth, and the goodneſs of the princeſs it was offered to, animated him very likely ſo much, that he grew rather too preſumptuous, for he received orders to withdraw from court; on which occaſion he wrote the following lines:

Amour

Amour le veult, & ma dame m'en prie
Que je m'en part ; & je moult t'en remercie :
Quand pour le gré ma dame m'en chaſtie,
Meilleur raiſonnez voi à ma partie.

The meaning of which is : " Cupid will have it " ſo, and my dame alſo requires it from me, that I " ſhould go ; wherefore I thank her much : when, " by her order, my dame chaſtiſes me, ſhe ſees " better reaſons in what concerns me."

THE remainder of Thibault's life has nothing in it which relates to our object. He died at Troies according to ſome, and at Pampelune according to others.

Anno 1238.

BLOIS (CHARLES OF)

FOR three and twenty years paſt, Charles of Blois, who had married the counteſs of Penthievre, niece to John III. duke of Britanny, who died without iſſue, was diſputing that dutchy with the earl of Montford, his couſin. Edward III. king of England, ſided with the earl of Montford, as did the kings of France with Charles of Blois. It is no part of our theme to enter here into the particulars of the rights of thoſe two illuſtrious rivals, and to diſcuſs them. All that we can ſay, only for the underſtanding of our ſtory is,

is, that it appears the intention of John III. had been to make his ſucceſſion devolve to Johanna, counteſs of Penthievre; but, that having not been able to ſettle things according to his mind before his death, it became neceſſary to have the affair decided by the fate of arms.

BRITANNY, during ſo long a war, had gone through all the horrors which generally are the attendants of that calamity. The nobility and the gentry were equally tired of ſeeing their blood ſpilling, and their wealth and eſtates going to ruin. A treaty of accommodation between the two contending pinces had ſeveral times already been put in agitation; and it ſeemed at laſt, that an end was going to be put to all diſputes; for it was agreed, that the dutchy of Britanny ſhould be divided between the two contenders; and this convention having thus been committed to writing, the treaty was ſent by Charles of Blois to his lady, for her to ſign it. This haughty princeſs could not help teſtifying her grief and diſſatisfaction at an agreement which ſhe pretended to be ſo prejudicial to her intereſts. The letter ſhe wrote to her huſband on the occaſion, ended thus: "You may do "whatever you think proper; I am only a wo- "man, and cannot do better. But, I had rather "looſe my life, and two lives, if I had them, than "conſent to ſo reproachable a thing, for the "ſhame

"ſhame of my heirs and ſucceſſors." Charles adored his wife: he was very ſenſible he was going to offend againſt honour, in declining to ratify a treaty he had firſt approved of; but love got the better of his reſolution. His rival failed not to avail himſelf of this fault; and that motive animated not a little his troops at the battle of Auray, which took place a little while after, and decided the conteſt.

BEFORE the battle began, the counteſs ſaid to Charles of Blois, her huſband, "I beg you will "grant me a requeſt; which is, to grant no "truce nor peace whatever, till you have to your "ſhare the whole body of the dutchy; for it is "my right and property as my patrimony." Charles kiſſed his lady, gave her his word he would ſacrifice his life to maintain her quarrel, and went off. After having done prodigies of valiance in the battle, he was killed. "Thus it "is, that periſhed a prince adorned with all the "gifts of the mind as well as of the heart; a "prince, who was brave, generous, faithful, and "even wife, might we ſay, *had he not been ſo tender* "*a huſband.*" That death put an end abſolutely to the contention. The dutchy of Britanny remained to the earl of Montfort. Some lands and annuities were, however, given to Charles's widow; a poor indemnification, indeed, for the loſs

of

of a huſband ſhe adored, and of a ſovereignty ſhe had loſt through her fault. Sometime after, a rumour was ſpread, that miracles were performed at the tomb of Charles of Blois. Regular inquiries were made, by order, and under the ſanction of the magiſtrates, to prove the truth or fallacy of them; but they were interrupted at the ſolicitation of the earl of Montford, who would not be ſaid to have unthroned a ſaint.

Anno 1364.

BOËMOND.

"A PASSION ſo much the more dangerous, "as it creeps in the heart under the ſhelter, and "by the inſinuations of beauty and graces, was "very near exciting a civil war in the principali-"ty of Antioche." Boëmond III. who poſſeſſed that principality by his mother's ſide, whoſe name was Conſtantia, had married for the firſt time a lady of the Iblin's family; and, after her demiſe, he took for his ſecond wife a Grecian princeſs named Theodora. In ſpite of the graces and beauty of this laſt, love came and diſturbed the ſweets of that union. A concubine, for whom Boëmond was ſeized with the moſt violent paſſion, was the occaſion of his forſaking his moſt amiable

amiable and virtuous wife. The patriarch of Antioche, having vainly exhauſted prayers and remonſtrances, excommunicated at laſt the prince, and threw a general interdiction on all his eſtates. Boëmond, animated by his paſſion, had a ſeizure made of the patriarch's temporals, expelled him from Antioche, and carried things ſo far, as even to beſiege him in his caſtle, where he had retired with the chiefs of the clergy. In an inſtant, there was a general inſurrection throughout the whole principality. Some for love for the prelate, others through their hatred for the prince, others inticed by the deſire of avenging their own private injuries, all took to arms. As the infidels might have taken advantage of thoſe diſſenſions, Beaudouin, the king of Jeruſalem, repaired to Antioche. Several conferences were held on the occaſion, the reſult of which were, that the patriarch ſhould be reinſtated, and the interdiction taken away; but, that Boëmond ſhould remain excommunicated, if he did not quit his concubine. He was far from being ready to comply; as the contradictions he had experienced, had only increaſed and irritated his paſſion. To avenge himſelf of the noblemen who had any ſhare in the treaty, he exiled a great may under various pretences. And ſuch were the commotions

tions and diſturbances excited by love in Antioche, at a time when their mind ſhould have been wholly taken up with the means of preſerving themſelves againſt the arms of the infidels.

Anno 1179.

BOISY.

SIEUR DE BOISY took it into his head to marry when he was ſixty years old. He was preciſely in that caſe, when we want a companion capable to comfort our old age by her cares, her attentions, and her friendſhip. But, if we fancy we are to look for ſuch a companion in a young girl, who is preciſely at that age when deſires begin to grow, when the blood boils, it is a great error, of which we ſeldom miſs finding ourſelves the dupe. This is a principle which Boiſy ſoon experienced the truth of.

HE married Johanna Vallier, who was ſeventeen years old. The company of a huſband of three ſcore was not calculated, to be ſure, for pleaſing a woman of her age. A grey-headed man may, undoubtedly, inſpire ſometimes eſteem; but love, that lively and all-fiery paſſion, cannot eaſily conjoin with the ice of accumulated years. Some months after her marriage, Mrs. de Boiſy aſked and obtained leave of her huſband to go

and

and ſpend ſome time in Paris. We may ſuppoſe eaſily, that her huſband, who had experience enough, warned her by his prudent admonitions againſt the dangers of miſconduct; that he painted her with ſtrong and lively colours the diſgrace a woman covered herſelf with when ſhe committed adultery; and we may alſo readily believe, that ſhe promiſed any thing he could wiſh. The good Lafontaine would not have truſted to ſuch promiſes, in which no one could blame him.

AFTER having lived ſeven months in Paris, Mrs. de Boiſy came back to her huſband five months gone with child. Love might have overlooked ſuch an error in reckoning; but jealouſy, and that eſpecially of an hoary head, is always a good arithmetician. Boiſy, therefore, had no need of a great effort of genius, to find he was not the father of the child his wife bore in her breaſt; but he was certainly very wrong to take ſo much exception at it; and ſtill more ſo to inform the public of it. On the affidavit he made before a juſtice, a bench warrant was iſſued againſt his wife. In the interrogatory ſhe underwent before one of the judges, ſhe was ingenuous enough to confeſs her adultery, and even to name the man who was the father of the child. By convention between her and her huſband, ſhe conſented to be locked up, upon a penſion being paid

paid her. After her laying-in was over, ſhe took in chancellery letters of reciſion; but her huſband died before he could ſee the end of the law ſuit. His nephew, in whoſe behalf he had diſpoſed by will of all his fortune, attempted to deny the legitimacy of the child; but, conformably to the concluſion of advocate general, Mr. Talon, the child was declared by parliament lawfully begotten.

Anno 1661.

BONNE.

BONNE, a country girl in Valtelina, was grazing her ſheep in the field, when ſhe was met by Brunoro, an illuſtrious Parmeſan warrior. That officer, enchanted with the vivacity and fierceneſs of that young girl, took her away with him, and made her his miſtreſs. His love, inſtead of decreaſing after poſſeſſion, grew ſtronger and ſtronger. It was the greateſt delight for him to have Bonne dreſſed in men's cloths, and get on horſeback to accompany him a hunting, an exerciſe which ſhe practiſed with very good grace.

THIS amiable girl accompanied Brunoro when he went into the ſervice of Francis I. againſt Alphonſo, king of Naples; and when he returned to the ſervice of this laſt, his firſt maſter.

The

The natural fickleneſs of Brunoro, induced him again to leave a ſecond time Alphonſo; but this prince being informed of his project, had him arreſted and put in priſon. It was in that critical moment, when Bonne gave evident proofs of her high attachment to her lover. Regardleſs of the weakneſs of her ſex, and of the dangers ſhe was expoſing herſelf to, ſhe went and implored the protection of the king of France, the duke of Burgundy, the Venetians, and other princes of Italy. Her applications were not unfruitful; ſhe brought back with her letters of recommendation to obtain the releaſe of Brunoro. Alphonſo, ſolicited by ſo many great princes, reſtored Bonne her lover. This ineſtimable girl, not ſatisfied yet with having obtained the liberty of the only man in the world ſhe loved, found again the means of obtaining for him, from the ſenate of Venice, the commanding of the troops of that republic, with twenty thouſand ducats ſalary.

So much generoſity and love made a ſtrong impreſſion on Brunoro's heart. He thought, therefore, he could not ſhew too much gratitude for the great and high obligations he was under to her in giving her his hand. That ſacramental union never cauſed the leaſt alteration either in the reciprocal tenderneſs or eſteem this couple had for

for each other: they continued to love to the very grave.

Anno 1466.

ANN BULLEN.

IT is well known, that the ſchiſm of England which ſeparated that kingdom from the Roman church, was owing to nothing more than the love of Henry VIII. for Ann Bullen. The ſeveral hiſtorians vary greatly in what they ſay of that girl, whoſe riſe and misfortunes have cauſed the celebrity. She was the daughter of Sir Thomas Bullen, treaſurer of the cloſet, and of Johanna Clinſton, daughter of Sir —— Clinſton, baronet. Some writers will have it, that king Henry VIII. being enamoured with the wife of Thomas Bullen, knight of the garter, ſent that nobleman in embaſſy to France, that he might be leſs conſtrained in his paſſion; and that it was during the abſence of the huſband that the celebrated Ann Bullen was born. In order to aggravate ſtill more their inceſtuous ſtory, thoſe ſame writers maintain, that Henry felt alſo the tender ſentiments of love for Ann's eldeſt ſiſter. This Ann, however, while things were thus going on, was growing and forming herſelf ſo well, that

even

even when ſhe was hardly fifteen years old, agreeably to the examples ſhe had before her eyes in her own family, ſhe gave herſelf up to her father's ſteward as well as to the chaplain. They add, that ſhe went next to France, where ſhe behaved with ſo much indecency, as to acquire the nick-name of the Engliſh hackney; after which, ſhe had that of the king's mule, becauſe Francis I. had his ſhare of her favours. At laſt, being returned to England, ſhe pleaſed the king; and making a good uſe of the experience ſhe had acquired, ſhe behaved with ſo much prudence and coquetry, as to induce Henry to wiſh to make her his wife, in order to obtain favours ſhe had before laviſhed on ſo many others, &c.

This ſtory, which ſeems dictated by hatred, and which, beſides, is not much likely, is flatly contradicted by the greateſt part of hiſtorians, except that part of it which relates to her dwelling in France, where ſhe went, indeed, in company with Mary queen to Lewis XII. and where ſhe ſerved ſince as maid of honour to queen Claudia, and afterwards to the ducheſs of Alençon.

They all agree in this point, that Ann Boulen united with the graces of her perſon, the qualities of the mind. As ſhe was, by her birth, intitled to appear at court, it was not long before ſhe was admitted among the queen's maids of honour.

True

True it is, ſhe did not obtain her patents of that place before, in a converſation ſhe had with the king, ſhe had inſpired him with the moſt violent love. This firſt favour was followed with that of making her father a lord. Ann, young and lively, and ſeemingly all taken up with pleaſures and amuſements, appeared at firſt calculated for nothing but adorning a feaſt. But, the ſeries of events ſoon diſcovered, that the knowledge of her true diſpoſitions had eſcaped the penetration of the moſt ſubtle courtiers. She was found to be deep, ambitious, diſſimulated. She ſtirred up the king's paſſion by her gay and fawning manners. But, when that prince, enflamed with deſires, attempted to declare his paſſion for her, ſhe affected ſentiments and an elevation of ſoul but too capable to awe a man much leſs in love than Henry was. When ſhe ſaw him as much kindled as ſhe wiſhed him to be, ſhe declared to him, that as ſhe could not be his wife, ſhe had too much virtue to ſubmit to be his proſtitute. There are many, however, who are of opinion, that this virtue ſo much boaſted of, was not always ſo rigid; and, that Ann did not wait for the ſacramental benediction to grant the king her favours. What might induce one to give credit to the aſſertion is, that there reigned a more than ordinary familiarity between theſe two lovers.

WHATEVER

WHATEVER it may be, the king, full of mettle and obſtinacy in his deſires, reſolved to ſhare his bed and his throne with his miſtreſs. But, how was it poſſible to procure a divorce from the virtuous Catharine, the daughter of Ferdinand and Iſabella, aunt of Charles V. and his queen for eighteen years paſt: this was the difficulty. That princeſs had firſt been married to prince Arthur. Having become a widow in about ſeven months after, ſhe married his brother Henry, with a diſpenſation of Julius II. who was then pope. Some ſay, indeed, that Henry VII. compelled his ſon to that union; but that compulſion, ſuppoſing it to have been true, could no longer be alledged as an excuſe by Henry VIII. ſince having, at his acceſſion to the throne, taken the advice of his counſel, and they having maturely conſidered on the ſubject, he had conſented to continue Catharine for his wife. Beſides, he had lived a great while with her, without experiencing any remorſe about it;—true it is, he did not yet love Ann Bullen: ſo that it was not before that paſſion had taken poſſeſſion of his heart, he began to reproach himſelf with having taken for his queen the widow of his brother. He ſolicited the pope Clement VII. to declare his marriage contrary both to divine and human laws; and to help in turning the opinion and

judgment of the pontiff, they preſented him ſome deciſions of divines, who had been bribed to pronounce them.

CARDINAL Wolſey, who was a great favourite with Henry, and who ruled the kingdom, entered at firſt into the views of the king. But, he never meant to procure him any more than a divorce; as by offering an injury of that ſort to the emperor, he found an opportunity of avenging himſelf, for that prince not having, according to his promiſes, got him elected pope. And no ſooner was Wolſey informed, that Ann Bullen was poſitively the principle of that divorce, but he ſent word to the pope to refuſe the ſentence which was ſolicited from him, as Ann Bullen was ſuſpected of being favourable to the errors of Luther. It was on that information, that cardinal Campegi, entruſted with the commiſſion of publiſhing the ſo much wiſhed-for bull, committed it to the flames by the pope's orders; and the affair was removed to Rome, which was the cauſe of Wolſey's diſgrace.

THIS ſo haughty, and ſo proud miniſter, who had ſeen himſelf treated almoſt upon an equality by Francis I. who, from the emperor Charles V. had obtained the moſt flattering marks of diſtinction, and from both theſe princes almoſt every thing he could wiſh for; who governed

verned abſolutely the kingdom of Great Britain, and ſaw the greateſt noblemen crawling at his feet: this prelate, in fine, who had heaped upon himſelf the richeſt benefices, and was poſſeſſed of immenſe treaſures, ſaw himſelf, in a moment, ſtripped of all his offices, his wealth, his eſtates, and his power; and why? for a woman. What induces us above any thing, to believe that Ann Bullen did not contribute a little to the diſgrace of the cardinal, is the letter ſhe wrote to him in the place of his exile, of which the following is a copy:

"My lord,

"HOWEVER ſenſible a man you may be "thought to be, you are nevertheleſs much "blamed by every one for having drawn upon "you the hatred of a king who had raiſed you to "the higheſt degree to which fortune could aſpire. "I cannot conceive, and the king can ſtill leſs "than I, that after having engaged us by ſo many "fair promiſes of divorce, you ſhould have cauſe "to repent your deſign, and tried all your might "to prevent a concluſion of it. What is then "this behaviour of your's? you forſook the "queen to favour my views at the time when I "was juſt beginning to be in the good graces of "the king; and, after having given me in that

" the greateſt marks of your affection, you for-
" ſake my intereſts to reaſſume thoſe of the queen.
" I muſt confeſs I have placed too much confi-
" dence in your proteſtations and promiſes,
" wherein I now find myſelf deceived. But, in
" future, I will no longer confide but in the pro-
" tection of Heaven and the love of my dear
" king, who alone have it in their power to mend
" the ways you have ſpoiled; and to place me in
" that happy condition that God will protect,
" that the king wiſhes ſo much to ſee, and which
" is to turn all to the beſt advantage of the king-
" dom. The injury you have done me has cauſ-
" ed me much ſorrow; but I am much more vex-
" ed, indeed, when I ſee myſelf betrayed by a man
" who had made believe he took my intereſts for
" no other purpoſe but to find out the ſecrets of
" my heart. I confeſs, that as I thought you
" were ſincere, I was too haſty in diſcovering
" them to you: the remembrance of this
" will be to me a motive for being more mode-
" rate in the vengeance I ſhould take of your
" conduct, as I cannot forget I was once your
" ſervant.

" ANN BOULEYN."

NOTWITHSTANDING Henry did not give up his project, and did all poſſible to obtain from the court

court of Rome the ſentence of divorce he had ſolicited for, there is ground to preſume he would have ſucceeded at laſt, had not queen Catharine been the aunt of the emperor Charles V. That prince, who was all mighty at the court of Rome, prevented the pope from condeſcending to the king's deſires. This prince, who was diſtractedly in love, and who knew no bounds to be put to his paſſion, had at firſt declared, that the ſcruples of his conſcience engaged him to ſolicit for that divorce. He had even aſſured his parliament, he had not the leaſt thought of marrying Ann Bullen; but they were not long before they were well aware he intended not to keep his word. He gave his miſtreſs the title of Marchioneſs of Pembroke; a quality which gave her a precedency over the counteſſes. To that preſent was added that of a magnificent palace, richly furniſhed. She had, beſides, a houſehold more brilliant than that of a princeſs of the blood. Meanwhile, the unfortunate, the virtuous Catharine was exiled from court, forſaken by every one, becauſe ſhe was deſtitute of authority, and reduced to ſeek for conſolation in her tears and in her virtue.

REBUKED and fatigued at laſt with the delays and evaſions of the court of Rome; tired with ſending to the pope ambaſſadors who were

perpetually deceived; and impatient, in ſhort, to poſſeſs the object of his deſires, Henry had the queſtion decided by Thomas Cranmer, whom he had juſt inveſted with the archbiſhopric of Canterbury, and he married his miſtreſs. This act of authority irritated infinitely the pope. After many delays, which were granted at the ſolicitation of Francis I. the ſovereign pontiff publiſhed a bull of excommunication againſt Henry. On this event, the prince took immediately his reſolution; and to make the pope ſenſible how little he cared for his excommunication, he got himſelf declared the chief abſolute of the church and clergy of his kingdom, and ſeized on all the eſtates and revenues of the clergymen. The biſhop Fiſher, and the celebrated chancellor Morus, who refuſed to acquieſce to ſuch an innovation, had their heads cut off.

EVERY thing ſeemed to proclaim, that the king's paſſion for the new queen was arrived to the utmoſt of its ſtrength. Things were in this ſituation, when ſhe preſented herſelf one day to Henry all in tears, and told him it was a ſubject of very great affliction for her, to foreſee that princeſs Mary, who was born from queen Catharine, and conſequently of an unlawful marriage, ſhould ſucceed to the crown by preference to Elizabeth her daughter. Henry, afflicted

with

with the tears of a wife he adored, promiſed her not only to diſinherit Mary, but even to have her put to death. Luckily this prince, although intoxicated by his paſſion, ſpared the days of the young princeſs; but, by an act he had publiſhed with the ſound of the trumpet throughout the whole kingdom, he declared Mary incapable to ſucceed to the crown; and, with incredible pomp and magnificence, he cauſed Elizabeth to be proclaimed his lawful heireſs.

Love, who had juſt wrought ſo many revolutions in behalf of Ann Bullen, ſeemed to have made her aſcend the throne but to render her fall more wonderful. There was at that time at court, and among the ladies of honour of the queen, a young perſon of rare merit and beauty, whoſe name was Johanna Seymour. Her charms made an impreſſion on the heart of Henry, who was much too weak to reſiſt them, and who, perhaps, was already tired of the queen. Incited, therefore, with this new paſſion, he gave a favourable and greedy ear to all the ſpeeches which tended to blacken the character of that princeſs. The courtiers, whoſe eternal occupation is only to diſcover the intentions of their maſter, grew eager in ſwelling, and even multiplying the reports. True it is, that Ann Bullen gave room to ſome ſuſpicions; for, whether it

was love for pleaſure's ſake, or merely through a deſire of having children, that ſhe might attach the king to herſelf more ſtrongly, or whether ſhe propoſed thereby to get a body of friends capable to ruin her rival, ſhe is ſuſpected of having had too great a familiarity with lord Rochford, her brother, the baron Noris, one Weſton, and a muſician whoſe name was Smetton. The king, however, ſeemed to entertain little doubt about it, ſince he himſelf accuſed Ann Bullen with adultery in the Houſe of Peers, and thereupon had her confined a cloſe priſoner. It is in that melancholy ſituation, that this princeſs wrote to the king a letter, which has appeared to us well worthy the readers curioſity *.

"SIR,

"YOUR grace's diſpleaſure, and my impri-
"ſonment, are things ſo ſtrange unto me, as
"what to write, and what to excuſe, I am altoge-
"ther ignorant. Whereas you ſend unto me
"(willing me to confeſs a truth, and ſo obtain
"your favour) by ſuch an one whom you know
"to be mine antient profeſſed enemy. I no

* This letter having been tranſlated into French from the Engliſh original, inſerted in No. 39 of the Spectator, we thought it was proper to recur to that original, in order to inſert it here in its purity, and ſuch as it may be found in Ann Bullen's own hand writing, in the *Cotton. lib. Otho.* C. 10. whence the Spectator took it.

ſooner

"ſooner received this meſſage by him, than I "rightly conceived your meaning; and if, as "you ſay, confeſſing a truth, indeed, may pro- "cure my ſafety, I ſhall with all willingneſs and "duty perform your command.

"But let not your grace ever imagine, that "your poor wife will ever be brought to acknow- "ledge a fault, where not ſo much as a thought "thereof preceded. And to ſpeak a truth, never "prince had wife more loyal in all duty, and in "all true affection, than you have found in *Ann* "*Boleyn*; with which name and place I could "willingly have contented myſelf, if God and "your grace's pleaſure had been ſo pleaſed. "Neither did I at any time ſo far forget myſelf "in my exaltation, or received queenſhip, but "that I always looked for ſuch an alteration as I "now find; for, the ground of my preferment "being on no ſurer foundation than your grace's "fancy, the leaſt alteration, I knew, was fit and "ſufficient to draw that fancy to ſome other ob- "ject. You have choſen me from a low eſtate, "to be your queen and companion, far beyond "my deſert or deſire. If then you found me "worthy of ſuch honour, good your grace, let "not any high fancy, or bad counſel of mine "enemies, withdraw your princely favour from "me: neither let that ſtain, that unworthy ſtain

" of a diſloyal heart towards your good grace,
" ever caſt ſo foul a blot on your moſt dutiful
" wife, and the infant princeſs your daughter.
" Try me, good king, but let me have a lawful
" trial, and let not my ſworn enemies ſit as my
" accuſers and judges. Yea, let me receive an
" open trial; for, my truth ſhall fear no open
" ſhame: then ſhall you ſee either mine inno-
" cence cleared, your ſuſpicion and conſcience ſa-
" tisfied, the ignomy and ſlander of the world
" ſtopped, or my guilt openly declared. So that,
" whatſoever God or you may determine of me,
" your grace may be freed from an open cenſure,
" and mine offence being ſo lawfully proved,
" your grace is at liberty, both before God and
" man, not only to execute worthy puniſhment
" on me as a lawful wife, but to follow your af-
" fection, already ſettled on that party for whoſe
" ſake I am now as I am, whoſe name I could
" ſome good while ſince have pointed unto, your
" grace not being ignorant of my ſuſpicion
" therein.

" But if you have already determined of me,
" and that not only my death, but an infamous
" ſlander muſt bring you the enjoying of your de-
" ſired happineſs, then I deſire of God, that he will
" pardon your great ſin therein, and likewiſe mine
" enemies, the inſtruments thereof; and that he

" will

"will not call you to a ſtrict account for your
"unprincely and cruel uſage of me at his gene-
"ral judgment-ſeat, where both you and myſelf
"muſt ſhortly appear; and in whoſe judgment I
"doubt not (whatſoever the world may think of
"me) mine innocence ſhall be openly known,
"and ſufficiently cleared.

"My laſt and only requeſt ſhall be, that my-
"ſelf ſhall only bear the burden of your grace's
"diſpleaſure; and that it may not touch the in-
"nocent ſouls of thoſe poor gentlemen, who, as I
"underſtand, are likewiſe in ſtrict impriſonment
"for my ſake. If ever I have found favour in
"your ſight; if ever the name of *Ann Boleyn*
"has been pleaſing to your ears, then let me ob-
"tain this requeſt, and I will ſo leave to trouble
"your grace any further, with mine earneſt
"prayers to the Trinity, to have your grace in
"his good keeping, and to direct you in all your
"actions. From my doleful priſon in the *Tower*,
"this 6th of May, 1536.

"Your moſt loyal,
"And ever faithful wife,
"ANN BOULEYN."

This letter made no impreſſion on Henry's mind; his reſolution was irrevocably taken; he could not marry Johanna Seymour while *Ann*

was alive, and therefore the death of this laſt was already reſolved upon. On the depoſitions of ſome witneſſes, whoſe evidences did not even agree among themſelves, the Parliament condemned the queen to loſe her head. Smetton was the only one, they ſay, who confeſſed to have defiled the royal bed; but that only evidence was not a ſufficient one to determine the judges. It is therefore very clear, that theſe had the baſeneſs to conform themſelves to the king's intentions; and Mr. Hume ſeems to entertain not the leaſt doubt about Ann Bullen's innocence. Beſides, the other actions of that parliament under that reign, ſhew plainly that they were abſolutely devoted to the orders and paſſions of the ſovereign. Some hiſtorians will have it, that ſhe confeſſed to have contracted, before ſhe aſcended the throne, ſome indiſſoluble engagements with Percy: but they add that, having been condemned to be burnt alive, ſhe was given to underſtand, that in making ſuch a confeſſion ſhe would only be beheaded, as it would authorize Henry to get a ſentence of divorce pronounced between them. Be it however it will, when that princeſs had her judgment read to her, ſhe ſhewed a great deal of courage and tranquillity. Before ſhe aſcended the ſcaffold, ſhe ſent her laſt meſſage to the king, to thank him for the care he took in continuing thus

to

to contribute ſtill to her further elevation: "From being a mere gentlewoman (ſaid ſhe) "you made me a marchioneſs; from a mar- "chioneſs, a queen; and from a queen you wiſh "now to make me a ſaint." This unfortunate queen had the grief to learn before ſhe died, that all thoſe who had been impriſoned as her accomplices, had been put to death.

Anno 1536.

BRINVILLIERS (THE MARCHIONESS OF)

MARY MARGUERITE D'AUBRAY was a daughter of Mr. Dreux d'Aubray, lieutenant-civil. She was married in 1651 to the marquis of Brinvilliers, who was meſtre-de-camp in the regiment of Normandy. During his ſtay at his regiment's quarters, he got acquainted with one Sieur Godin, ſurnamed Sainte-Croix, who had been captain of horſe in the regiment of Traſſi, and who was the baſtard of a diſtinguiſhed family, a man capable of the greateſt crimes, though, by the bye, engaging in his perſon, and endued with all the qualities which may ſeduce a woman. The Marquis of Brinvilliers introduced him into his houſe, not ſuſpecting he gave that entrance to an infernal villain, who was going to diſhonour his bed, and be the cauſe of all his misfortunes.

MR.

MR. Sainte-Croix ſoon paid his addreſſes to Lady Brinvilliers, and he had no need of employing much art in order to ſeduce her. This paſſion aſſumed ſuch an empire over the mind and the heart of the marchioneſs, that ſhe became the ſlave of her lover, and committed the moſt atrocious crimes to pleaſe him. His connection with her became even ſo publicly known, that Mr. d'Aubray thought himſelf under the neceſſity of ſoliciting a letter-de-cachet to ſend Mr. de Sainte-Croix to the Baſtile. He obtained it; but, he paid dearly afterwards for that act of rigour which his prudence had dictated him.

THE ſtay of Sainte-Croix in the Baſtile, inſpired him with the greateſt deſire of avenging himſelf; which he found the means of putting in execution, in joining with another priſoner, an Italian, and a celebrated poiſoner, who taught him the fatal talent of compoſing the moſt ſubtle poiſons. At the end of twelve months, Mr. Sainte-Croix came out of the Baſtile: he then formed the project of deſtroying, by poiſon, the whole family of Lady Brinvilliers, that he might, with her, ſhare her immenſe inheritance. Such a propoſal alone had been fit to revolt the blackeſt ſoul; but love and intereſt are two dreadful paſſions, and both at the ſame time governed the marchioneſs of Brinvilliers. She ſtifled, therefore,

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in her boſom, the ſentiments of nature, and did not ſhudder at taking upon herſelf the charge of poiſoning her own father. Her firſt eſſays met not with a complete ſucceſs, as they only cauſed ſome light indiſpoſitions to that reſpectable magiſtrate. It was during thoſe indiſpoſitions, and under the pretence of paying him her due cares and attentions, when his wretch of a daughter renewed her poiſonings, without the ſight of a reſpectable father, beſtowing his grateful careſſes on her, for her ſuppoſed attention, being able to divert her from committing a crime which makes nature ſhudder. She ſucceeded at laſt; Mr. d'Aubray died.

Two brothers were left who lived together, and the eldeſt of whom ſucceeded his father in the office of lieutenant-civil. Sainte-Croix procured them a ſervant named Lachauſſée, whom he had bribed. A worthy diſciple of ſuch a maſter! this man poiſoned Meſſrs. d'Aubray, who both died without there yet ariſing any ſuſpicion of poiſon. The marchioneſs of Brinvilliers had indeed ſtill a ſiſter; but, whether this was upon her guard, or her conſtitution ſtrong enough to reſiſt poiſon, however, ſhe eſcaped death. It is reported, that Mr. de Brinvilliers was not exempt of the attacks of his abominable wife. And how could ſhe, indeed, have thought

of

of ſparing a huſband, after having in cool blood aſſaſſinated a father and two brothers! Thus it is that lady de Sévigné ſpeaks of her in one of her letters: "Lady de Brinvilliers wiſhed to "marry Sainte-Croix, and with that intention "often adminiſtered poiſon to her huſband. "Sainte-Croix, who was not inclined to be "burthened with a woman as wicked as him-"ſelf, adminiſtered alſo counter-poiſon to that "poor huſband; ſo that being thus toſſed about, "now poiſoned, and then *unpoiſoned*, he conti-"nued to live."

THE moment was drawing near when providence was to diſcloſe all thoſe horrors; and it did happen in a very ſtrange manner. Sainte-Croix, wholly taken up with perfecting himſelf in the art of manufacturing new poiſons, uſed to wear a glaſs maſk to preſerve himſelf from the fumes of the venom; the glaſs, one day, broke, and he was ſuddenly ſuffocated. This accident did not come to the ears of the marchioneſs of Brinvilliers before the coroner had repaired to the apartment of the deceaſed. There was found a ſmall box which unravelled every thing. It was filled with poiſons of all kinds, and with various inſcriptions thereon. Beſides ſome indications ſufficient to inſpire great ſuſpicions againſt lady Brinvilliers, what corroborated more the ſuſpicion againſt her,

her, was a paper in Sainte-Croix's own hand writing, by which he desired those in whose hands this box might fall, to deliver it into the marchioness's own hands, &c. After having tried to bribe the coroner into a delivery of the fatal box without success, she took flight, and retired into foreign countries.

LACHAUSSEE, that scoundrel who had poisoned Messrs. d'Aubray, and to whom, for reward of his crime, those gentlemen had left by their will and testament a pension of three hundred livres a year, was aukward enough to come and claim some part of Sainte-Croix's property. He was arrested, tried at the suit of lady Mangot of Villarceau, the widow of the last lieutenant-civil, and condemned to be broken on the wheel. Before his execution, he acknowledged the justice of the sentence passed on him, and confessed he had poisoned the two brothers d'Aubray, and added a great many things against Sainte-Croix and the marchioness of Brinvilliers.

DURING all these transactions she had retired to a convent at Liege. But, as poisoning is a crime which is excepted from the security and protection granted by sovereigns to foreign criminals, one Desgrais, an exempt of the Marchalsea, was sent to Liege with a great number of kidnappers, and a copy of the trial which proved

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the crime of the marchioneſs; accordingly he obtained leave to take her. In order to do it with more ſafety, and without cauſing any inſurrection from the mob, he diſguiſed himſelf in a clergyman's habit. As a countryman, he met no great obſtacle to be introduced to the marchioneſs. He ſpoke to her the language of love: he was liſtened to: then he obtained of her that ſhe would meet him at a rendezvous which he appointed out of town. There it was, that quitting the part of a clergyman and a lover, he reaſſumed his true character. The marchioneſs was conducted to Paris. There, in ſpite of her firmneſs in denying every thing, ſhe was condemned as guilty of the atrocious crimes above related. What gave not a little aſſiſtance in convicting her, is a paper in her own hand writing which was found on her, in which ſhe made her own confeſſion, and accuſed herſelf, among other piccadilloes, with having poiſoned her father, her brothers, and to have ceaſed to be a maid at ſeven years of age, &c, &c, &c. After the judgment which condemned her was pronounced over her, ſhe confeſſed all her crimes, and it is reported that ſhe died with all the regret of a ſincere penitent. "It is impoſſible," ſays lady "de Sévigné, "that this abominable woman "ſhould be in Paradiſe: her naſty ſoul ought to

"be

"be ſeparated from other aſſaſſins. It is a trifle "in compariſon with being eight months in kil- "ling her own father, amidſt her receiving all "his careſſes and endearments, to which ſhe an- "ſwered by only doubling the doſe." Some ſay that the marquis de Brinvilliers was weak enough to go and ſollicit in extenuation of the charges againſt his wife.

It was at the occaſion of ſuch a number of crimes, that the king's edict of July 1682, was publiſhed for the puniſhment of witchcraft, poiſoning, and other crimes therein mentioned.

BRZTISLAS.

OTHALRIC, duke of Bohemia, had juſt added Moravia to his dukedom, after having taken it away from Miſicon the king of Poland, when love was very near making him loſe his eſtates. This prince, having obeyed the inclination of his heart, had married Domaroda the daughter of a huſbandman. From that marriage he had obtained a ſon named Brztiſlas. This young prince having heard mention of the extreme beauty of one Judith, or Jutha, the daughter of count Albert Othon, ſurnamed the Sincere, had conceived a violent paſſion for her. But, the ex-

traction.

traction of Domaroda his mother having made him apprehenſive of experiencing a refuſal from Othon, his paſſion blinded him; and he reſolved to get by force what he feared to be not able to obtain by good will.

JUDITH was educated in a convent at Ratizbon. Brztiſlas, with thirty young Bohemians in his company, repaired to that town. By dint of preſents he obtained at laſt the permiſſion of ſpeaking with Judith. He had the good luck to pleaſe her, and inſpire her with the deſire of becoming his wife. Enchanted with this ſucceſs, Brztiſlas haſtened to take advantage of the circumſtance; and, "having ſpied the moment "when the young boarders went to the evening "prayers, he laid hold of Judith, who made no "great reſiſtance, and ſet off with all ſpeed, eſ-"corted by the thirty young noblemen his "friends. No ſooner were they arrived at Pra-"gue, but the biſhop Iſon performed the cere-"mony of the nuptials, to which the princeſs "aſſented."

So far Brztiſlas could not but applaud himſelf for his happy ſucceſs. But he was not long before he was made ſenſible that his paſſion had blinded him, and prevented his foreſeeing the dangers which were the neceſſary and unavoidable conſequence of his bold undertaking.

Othon,

Othon, the father of Judith, furious at the rape of his daughter, complained moſt bitterly of it to the emperor Conrad II. ſurnamed the Salic. This prince promiſed him to take vengeance of it. He promiſed him even upon oath, to expel from Bohemia, Othalric and his ſon, and to make it the ſeat of the empire. The two armies ſoon took the field. They were already in preſence of each other. A battle was going to decide about the fate of the duke of Bohemia, when Judith, who was the cauſe or the motive of that war, advanced between the two armies, and employed all the eloquence which her attachment for her huſband inſpired her with, to exhort them to peace. "The contending "princes could not reſiſt either her charms, or "the eloquence of her reaſonings. They put "down their arms. Brztiſlas repaired to the tent "of the emperor, who received him with great "marks of joy and friendſhip, and promiſed him "to forget all that was paſt." In the midſt of the merriment occaſioned by ſo unexpected an event, Conrad remembered the oath he had made of fixing the ſeat of the empire in the heart of Bohemia, and this remembrance cauſed him the greateſt trouble. Judith, this incomparable woman, found again the means of eaſing the ſcruples of the emperor on that account. She conducted

ducted him to Prague with all his court, received him there with the greateſt pomp and magnificence; thence ſhe took him to Buntzlau, which is the center of Bohemia, made him aſcend the throne which had been prepared there for him, and then Conrad gave to Brztiſlas the inveſtiture of the dukedom of Bohemia, with a flag, on which was painted a black eagle, which many imagine to have been the old coat of arms of that dukedom.—A certain author ranges that anecdote under the reign of the emperor Othon II. whom he ſuppoſes to be the father of the young princeſs.

Anno 1032.

BUADE.

CAPTAIN BUADE, who was beheaded at the Hague on account of a correſpondence he was accuſed to hold with the enemies of the ſtate, had married, through the protection of the houſe of Orange, wherein he had been a page, Miſs Niveras, daughter of Cornelius Muſek, the ſecretary of the ſtates, and one of the richeſt men in Holland. That marriage did not turn out well. The lady, who had been gallant and a coquette when ſingle, became ſtill more ſo after ſhe was

was married. It is reported that she once absented from home for seven or eight days, and that on her return her husband gave her a hundred strokes with the flat of his sword; an action which did not help much to mend affairs between that couple. No one will ever think otherwise, but that woman entertained something more than indifference in her heart against her husband, since they assure that out of a window which looked on the place, she viewed his execution. She did not lead a more modest life after her widowhood, as she became the public concubine of Jouvelle, captain of the black musqueteers. She turned catholic, and made her abjuration in the hands of the archbishop of Paris Francis de Harley; "but," says the author from whom we copy this anecdote "in abjuring heresy she did "not abjure whoredom."

Anno 1666.

BUSSY (THE COUNT OF)

COUNT of Bussy, who lived in the reigns of Charles IX. and Henry III. who was so much talked of on account of his bravadoes, and who, as Brantome says, picked a quarrel upon a straw, had with Mr. St. Fal, among other disputes, one which

which made a great ſtir. It began at a playhouſe in Paris about an embroidered muff. Had it not been for a lady whom Buſſy loved, and who was preſent, they would have come to fight on the ſpot. But, the next day, Mr. Buſſy went to his adverſary's, and they went out together to a place agreed on, accompanied each of them with five or ſix friends, where being arrived, the battle began. A wound which Buſſy received at one of his fingers from a ball of a piſtol, put an end to the fight for one moment. They propoſed to renew it in the iſland of the Palace, had not people, ſent on purpoſe by his majeſty, taken away Buſſy. Then they gave him guards, as well as to St. Fal; and there was abſolutely need of poſitive and repeated orders from the king to prevent theſe two noblemen from cutting one another's throats. The whole of that diſpute aroſe from nothing elſe but a love affair. Count of Buſſy had entertained a great paſſion for a handſome and wealthy widow named Madam Defrigny. He had left her in recommending to her to marry again. She thought ſhe would follow that advice, and made choice of Mr. St. Fal. Then Buſſy, angry at not having himſelf married that widow, picked up that quarrel with his rival.

At laſt, love was the cauſe of count Buſſy's death. Thus it is that Brantome tells it: "Had

"Buſſy

"Buſſy been more humble, he had not occaſion-
"ed the cruel maſſacre, in which he fell; for
"he was entrapt in an amour with a lady. It
"is ſaid of him, that the two gods whom he had
"moſt loved and cheriſhed, cauſed his death."

THE Journal of Henry III. gives us a circumſtantial detail of this adventure; the fact is recounted thus: "Buſſy D'Amboiſe, firſt gentle-
"man of M. le Duc, governor of D'Anjou,
"and Abbé of Bourgueil, who grew extremely
"arrogant on account of the favor of his maſter,
"and committed many extortions in the pro-
"vinces of Anjou and Du Maine, was killed by
"the Count de Montſoreau, together with the
"criminal lieutenant de Saumar, in a houſe of
"the ſaid Montſoreau, where that night the
"Lieutenant, who was his meſſenger of love,
"had conducted him, to ſleep with the wife of
"Montſoreau, to whom Buſſy had for ſome
"time made love; which lady had purpoſely
"made a falſe aſſignation, to have him ſurpriſed
"by her huſband. On appearing at midnight,
"he was preſently aſſailed by ten or a dozen
"men that accompanied Montſoreau, who in
"their fury fell upon Buſſy to deſtroy him.
"That gentleman ſeeing himſelf ſo poorly de-
"ceived, being alone, and little prepared for
"ſuch an encounter, did not delay to defend

"himſelf in that extremity; ſhewing, as he had "often ſaid, that fear had never found entrance "into his heart, for he fought while there re- "mained a bit of ſword in his hand, and after- "wards defended himſelf with tables, chairs, "ſtools, &c. with which he wounded three or "four of his aſſailants; after this, being ſubdued "by numbers, and ſtript of all arms and inſtru- "ments to defend himſelf, he was knocked down "near a window, from which he attempted to "throw himſelf, to eſcape from his antagoniſts."

IT is neceſſary to explain how Montſoreau diſcovered the intrigue between his wife and Buſſy. The latter by his arrogance was become the object of the king's diſpleaſure; and he had alſo loſt his influence upon M. le Duc D'Anjou. This prince, to divert the king his brother one day, ſhewed him a letter of Buſſy's, in which he ſet forth, *that he had ſpread a ſnare for the* HIND of the great *huntſman, and that he held her in his* NETS. This *hind* was the wife of Charles Chambres, Compt de Montſoreau, to whom the Duke of Anjou, at the ſolicitation of Buſſy, had given the place of his *great huntſman.* The king kept this letter, and as he had long had a deſign againſt Buſſy, ſhewed it to the Count de Montſoreau. There needed no more to animate the latter; he forced his wife to appoint

point a rendezvous, in the houſe where Buſſy came and was aſſaſſinated. Theſe lines were written on his death:

Formoſæ Veneris, furioſi Martis Alumnus,
Nobilium terror, Buſſius hic ſitus eſt;
Nam monſoræi quoniam temeravit Hymæneis,
Incautus crebris ictibus occubuits.
Inſidiis cecidit furtivo Marti peremptus.
Non potuit ſolum ſolus habere parens,
Uſus erat ſemper Veneris Martiſque favore,
Ac Mars hunc tandem prodidit atque Venus
Hinc caſtos maculare, thoros dediſciti moechi;
Sanguine purgari debet adulterium.

BUSAS.

IT was during the war of the Avares againſt the Romans, that the barbarians, by a ſingular event, became maſters of Aſperia, a conſiderable fortreſs. A ſoldier named Buſas, who was in the garriſon, and whoſe valour had diſtinguiſhed him on ſeveral occaſions, owing to his imprudence in following the enemy *without* the fort, had the misfortune to be taken priſoner. As he aſſured them of a large ranſom if they would ſpare his life, they conducted him before the walls of Aſperia, where they told the inhabitants, that if they did not immediately redeem Buſas, he would be put to death. Buſas himſelf tried

to excite the compaſſion of his countrymen; he recalled to their remembrance the ſervices he had done them, and ſhewed the ſcars he retained upon his body, ſcars which he had received in defending their liberties. Unfortunately, Buſas had a pretty wife, who had pleaſed one of the principal inhabitants of Aſperia, with whom ſhe carried on a diſhonourable commerce. This man, thinking he could more eaſily ſatisfy his paſſion during the abſence of Buſas, and perſuaded that the enemies would put him to death, prevailed upon the inhabitants abſolutely to refuſe paying the ranſom of one of their braveſt defenders. They were, however, the victims of their ingratitude. Buſas, irritated by the ſlight they put upon him, promiſed the Avares to give them poſſeſſion of Aſperia; and he kept his word, by teaching them to erect machines proper for taking cities, and the manner of uſing them; which proved very fatal to the Romans under the empire of Maurice.

C.

C A A B.

CAAB, or Cab-ben Zohair, was a diſtinguiſhed poet among the Arabs, and one of thoſe rabbins

rabbins who had embraced Judaiſm. Mahomet became his ſworn enemy, on account of a ſatyrical poem he wrote againſt his ſect, and particular impoſtures. The Prophet was ſo deſirous to avenge himſelf, that he declared war againſt thoſe tribes of the Arabs who profeſſed Judaiſm, with the deſign of ſeizing Caab.

THE poet, ſeeing Mahomet maſter of Arabia, endeavoured to effect a reconciliation with him, by ſubſtituting in his poem the name of Arbabeker for that of Mahomet, and turning Mahometan. The reconciliation, in ſpight of theſe ſacrifices, was ſtill not complete; it remained for love and women to ſoften the choler of the Prophet. Caab compoſed a poem in honour of one of Mahomet's miſtreſſes, taking care to addreſs the moſt beloved.

THIS method had all poſſible ſucceſs. From that time the poet was conſidered as one of Mahomet's greateſt favourites, eſpecially ſince this famous Prophet preſented him with the cloak he wore. It is alſo believed, that Caab had a great hand in the compoſition of the Alcoran.

Anno 622.

CALIGULA.

A CELEBRATED author obſerves, that we cannot utter the name of Caligula without re-

viving ideas of the greateſt wickedneſs man is capable of. The criminal love, which in his moſt early years he entertained for his ſiſter Druſilla, and which he retained after the death of that laſcivious woman, cauſed him to commit the moſt incredible extravagancies. He had firſt given her in marriage to Caſſius Longinus; but ſoon after took her away, and lived with her as his lawful wife. After the death of this princeſs, he cauſed the Romans to rank her among the immortals. They ſet up her ſtature in gold, in the Senate; and raiſed another in the Forum, to which they paid the ſame honours as to Venus. They conſecrated a temple particularly to her; the women were bound to ſwear by her name; and the day of her birth was diſtinguiſhed by the ſame games as thoſe of Cybela. During the public mourning which Caligula appointed for her, it was a crime to laugh, to enter the baths, or eat in public. A poor man who had ſold ſome worm-drink, was put to death as guilty of impiety. Caligula no longer ſwore by the ſenate, nor the army, but by the divinity of Druſilla. A ſenator named Livius Geminus, had the baſeneſs to affirm, that he had ſeen Druſilla aſcend to Heaven. Behold what the Romans, theſe maſters of the world, would do for a woman, and ſuch a woman too!

AFTER the death of Sejan, who was at laſt

puniſhed

puniſhed for his crimes, Caligula thought ſeriouſly of taking the ſhorteſt way to attain the empire. Macron, chief of the Roman Cohorts, was not eaſily gained. It was therefore dangerous to make a confidant of him. Caligula having loſt Junia his wife, addreſſed his attentions to the wife of Macron, whom he promiſed to make empreſs. Macron, though diſhonoured by his wife, was ſtill ſo imprudent as to give Caligula free acceſs. Tiberius was not long before he was poiſoned; they likewiſe ſay, that Caligula haſtened his death by ſmothering him with a pillow.

ARRIVED at the higheſt honours, Caligula employed them only to gratify his paſſions. Being preſent at the nuptials of Livia Oreſtilla, who eſpouſed Cayus Piſon, after the ſolemnities were performed, he commanded the bride to be forced to his palace. He became enamoured of Lollie Paulin, upon the ſole account of its being ſaid, that her grandmother had been perfectly handſome; as ſhe accompanied Cayus Memmius, her huſband, who commanded in the army, Caligula recalled him, and conſtrained him to give up all pretentions to his wife; whom he eſpouſed himſelf, but preſently after divorced.

HE frequently invited perſons of the higheſt

quality to ſupper, and whilſt the women paſſed before him, examined them with a curioſity the moſt abandoned licentiouſneſs could only admit; and when ſhame cauſed any one to decline their heads, he would with his hand force them to look up. During the repaſt, he would leave the hall, call thoſe women who pleaſed him moſt, and return with the recent marks of his lewdneſs. He praiſed, or blamed aloud, the perſon who had become the ſacrifice to his brutality, telling the *defects* or *perfections* of their perſon, and entering into the moſt ſcandalous detail of his pleaſures.

Anno of Rome 791.

CAMMA.

SINORIX, Tetrarch of Gallatia, captivated with the beauty of Camma, his father's wife, tried various means to ſeduce her. Finding his attempts fruitleſs, and willing, nevertheleſs, to gratify his paſſion at what price ſoever it was, he put an end to the life of Senatus. The virtuous Camma conjecturing who aimed the blow, retired to the Temple of Diana, there to weep the death of her huſband. Ardently importuned by Senorix, ſhe oppoſed a long reſiſtance to his deſires, the greater as ſhe knew the

place

place of her retreat was ſacred; but rightly judging, that as Sinorix had deſtroyed her huſband, he would, in the end, not fear to violate her aſylum, ſhe feigned a compliance with his deſires, and fixed a day for their nuptials.

BEING arrived at the temple where the marriage ceremony was to be performed, ſhe preſented Senorix with the nuptial cup, in which ſhe had put a ſubtle poiſon. The prince believing he approached the moment of his happineſs, drank half; Camma took the reſt, declaring aloud, that ſhe ſhould die content, ſince ſhe had avenged the death of Senatus.

CARLOS (DON)

DON CARLOS was the ſon of Philip II. king of Spain, and of his wife Maria of Portugal, daughter of Jean III. and of Catherine IV. ſiſter of Charles V. The queen Maria having expired in child-birth a year after her marriage. Philip in his ſecond marriage eſpouſed Mary, queen of England; and after the death of that princeſs, married Elizabeth of France. This princeſs, who occaſioned the death of Don Carlos, was the daughter of Henry II. king of France.

THE young prince to whom ſhe had been pro-

miſed, became enamoured of her portrait. The ſight of this charming queen, whom he ſaw reſigned into the arms of his father, encreaſed his anguiſh and deſpair. It is preſumed that the princeſs, who had not been pleaſed with the exchange, and who, it is certain, could not experience any vaſt ſatisfaction in becoming the wife of a prince, cruel by principle, attached to conſtrained ceremonies of etiquette, and cold by conſtitution, ſometimes ſuffered a ſigh to eſcape before Don Carlos. The young prince, on his ſide, forgetting the reſpect he owed to his father, projected a retreat into the Low Countries to put himſelf at the head of the Malcontents. His deſign being diſcovered, he was arreſted by the king himſelf. Carlos knew the inflexible ſeverity of his father, and hoped for no favour: beſides, the ſcrupulous pride of his own character would not permit him to aſk it. In this ſituation he reſolved to ſtarve himſelf to death; and for ſome days had taken no ſuſtenance; when the queen Elizabeth, finding means to acquaint him that ſhe would have him live, and implore the mercy of the king, he could not reſiſt the deſires of a princeſs he adored.

He made application to Philip to ſee him; and having obtained that favour, threw himſelf at his feet, and beſeeched him to conſider that it

was

was his *own* blood he was preparing to ſpill. "When I have *bad* blood, (ſaid the unnatural "Philip) I give my arm to the ſurgeon to draw "it from me." Don Carlos, full of indignation at the cruelty of this anſwer, and enraged that he had humbled himſelf without ſucceſs, anſwered—"If thoſe, for whom my reſpect will never "end but with my days, had not *forced* me to "ſee you, I had not been mean enough to aſk "your favour, and ſhould have died more glori-"ouſly than you live."

THIS anſwer was not calculated to appeaſe the king; his jealouſy quickly returned, when he learnt the intelligence his ſon held with the queen, and the exceſs of his paſſion for that princeſs. The ruin of theſe unfortunate lovers was, from that moment, determined. The death of Don Carlos was announced a few days after; the queen's ſoon followed. Philip, after he had played a farce in the eyes of the world, one while diſcovering all the tenderneſs of a parent, another in ſaying, that in the character of a king, he owed all to his ſubjects; that in the quality of a miniſter of God, he would not, nor *ought* not, even to ſpare his own blood, abandoned his ſon to the judgment of the inquiſitors, whom this young prince had greatly offended,

and even menaced: they condemned him to death.

ACCORDING to a known hiſtorian, the death of Elizabeth was decided, not on account of the jealouſy Philip entertained of Don Carlos, but of the hatred his miniſters had conceived againſt the young prince. As they feared the queen, by her influence, might obtain ſomething in favour of Don Carlos, they made Philip believe that ſhe had a contagious diſorder, which being communicated, might cauſe his death. This calumny had not ſufficient weight to prevent the king from approaching the queen. As his heart was already corroded with jealouſy, they made uſe of the wicked tongue of a French lady, who was of the queen's houſhold, to effect their purpoſe.

THIS woman, full of reſentment that the queen had given the vacant place of maid of honour to another, although ſhe had promiſed it her, informed the king that improper familiarities had paſſed between the Marquis de Poſa, of the queen's houſhold, and her miſtreſs. Now it was eaſy to impreſs this opinion on his mind, as the chevalier was the moſt genteel and gallant of the court, and often entertained the queen with pleaſant ſtories and gallantries, at which ſhe laughed freely, which the Spaniſh gravity would not

not allow. The miniſters, on their part, once more poiſoned the mind of Philip, by making him remark, and by interpreting maliciouſly the words, geſtures, and actions of the queen. In the end, the Marquis de Poſa was aſſaſſinated as he went home. A ſhort time after, the king gave poiſon to Elizabeth; and ſeeing the effect was not quick enough, he ſent her a draught; as ſhe objected to take it, he came into her apartment, and ſaid—"Il a faut prendre, Ma-"dame."—"Ah, Monſieur, (replied ſhe) puiſ-"qu'il le faut, je le veux: Oui je reçois ce "préſent de votre main." Soon after ſhe was delivered of a girl at five months, and died.

THOSE who pretend that Don Carlos was a little deranged in his head ſay, that the young prince purſuing his ſtudies at Alcala, occupied a part of the celebrated palace built by Cardinal Ximenès; a counteſs, who lived in the lower apartments of the caſtle, among her women had a young girl, whoſe beauty was remarked by the prince, and made an impreſſion on his heart.

SEEKING means to ſatisfy his deſires, he diſcovered, behind the hangings of his chamber, a private ſtair-caiſe, which led to the lower apartments of the caſtle. He communicated this diſcovery to one of his favourites; and willing to profit by it during the night, his foot ſlipping off

the

the firſt ſtair, he fell from the top to the bottom. This misfortune gave him a wound in the head, which endangered his life. It was healed, but there remained an imbecility that was, perhaps, the cauſe of thoſe imprudencies which his father ſo cruelly puniſhed.

CATALINE.

THE conſpiracy of Catiline, which was not far ſhort of overthrowing Rome, in part owed its commencement to love; and it was that little god alſo who cauſed its diſcovery.

Lucius Sergius Catiline, whoſe birth was illuſtrious, ſeemed only ſtudious to tarniſh that glory which had been tranſmitted to him by his anceſtors. Miniſter of the cruelties of Sylla, he had through that means acquired great riches, which he ſoon diſſipated in licentiouſneſs.

Given up, from the moſt tender age, to his paſſions, he ſeduced a young perſon of high birth, who afterwards became his mother-in-law: he had had a daughter by her, and this wretch was not aſhamed to marry her. He had alſo the preſumption to offer his vows to the veſtal Sabia Terentia, and his talent for ſeduction was ſuch, that he did not meet a refuſal. It is known how

ſevere

ſevere the Romans were upon the faults of their veſtals; it required all the credit of Calulus to ſave Terentia and her lover.

CATILINE became afterwards deſperately in love with Aurela Oreſtilla, an illuſtrious Roman, then a widow, who had a child by her firſt huſband. Catiline ardently preſſed her to marry him, but the affection Oreſtilla entertained for her child, prevented her yielding to the deſires of her lover.

CATILINE was not affrighted at a crime, when it tended to gratify his paſſions. He poiſoned the child, which was the obſtacle to his marriage, and eſpouſed the mother. Soon after this, his licentiouſneſs and prodigality reduced him to miſery; this wretched ſituation threw him into diſpair; to eſcape which, he abandoned himſelf to the delirium of his imagination.

CONNECTED with a number of debauchées as ruined as himſelf, Catiline thought he muſt overthrow his country to retrieve his ſhattered fortune. His connections with the moſt illuſtrious young men of Rome, and likewiſe with ſeveral Roman colonées of Italy, made him hope his projects would be crowned with the greateſt ſucceſs.

WHAT ſtill encreaſed the number of the conſpirators, was a ſociety of licentious young women,

men, loathers of their huſbands, and given up to debauchery. In this number Sempronia, the wife of Junius Brutus, who was one of the aſſaſſins of Cæſar, was above all diſtinguiſhed. Never had woman more talents than her to engage hearts. To an uncommon ſhare of beauty, ſhe joined a charming voice, and all the allurements of wit. It was from her ſchool that Catiline drew ſeveral of his aſſociates. Nothing leſs was attempted than to aſſaſſinate the conſuls, and above all Cicero one of them; to put fire at the four corners of Rome; to maſſacre a great part of the Patricians; to ſeize upon their riches, and the government of the republic.

The conſpirators ſeveral times fixed the day and hour to execute their projects, but they always obſerved that precautions were taken againſt their enterpriſes. The conſpiracy was at length diſcovered; Cicero told it to Catiline in the ſenate. It was then this prince of orators made one of thoſe orations which will be the admiration of all ages. Catiline, although diſcovered, did not loſe all hope; he left Rome, and put himſelf at the head of the troops which he had raiſed in Italy, relying on thoſe friends he left at Rome, who were not yet diſcovered, that they would execute what they had agreed to, and facilitate his entrance into the city. This hope

was

was vain; Cicero having obtained the moſt unequivocal proofs of the conſpiracy, four of the principal conſpirators were put to death. Catiline, purſued by the Roman legions, gave them battle; and ſeeing his army give way, liſtened only to his deſpair, threw himſelf into the midſt of the enemy, and was killed. Thus ended, with its chief, this famous conſpiracy. Among the number of the conſpirators, was one named Quintus Curius, who had been expelled the ſenate for the number of his crimes. Paſſionately enamoured of a woman named Fulvia, he had diſſipated all his property with her, and was reduced to the moſt extreme indigence; Fulvia had not then the ſame attention and affection for her lover as before. Curius, enchanted with the project of Catiline, which he hoped would ſoon put him in a ſituation to regain the affections of Fulvia, whom he adored, had the weakneſs to intimate to this woman the greatneſs of his expectations; but he affected the utmoſt ſecreſy upon all the reſt. Where find we a woman without curioſity? and where a lover who has power to conceal any thing from his miſtreſs? Fulvia was ſoon informed of all ſhe wiſhed to know. Whether, on her part, through inadvertency, or whether from diſguſt to Curius, but ſhe divulged the ſecret. Cicero, then

then conſul, was appriſed of it; he ſent privately for Fulvia, to draw from her all the neceſſary eclairciſſements, and likewiſe engaged her to obtain from Curius a particular detail and plan of the whole conſpiracy. It was by this means that Cicero, who diſtinguiſhed himſelf ſo greatly on that account during his conſulſhip, deſtroyed the fatal machinations of Cataline, and ſaved his country.

Anno of Rome 691.

CÆSAR (JULIUS)

JULIUS CÆSAR, whom fortune had elevated to the higheſt degree man can aſpire to, was near periſhing, in the bginning of his career, for a woman. After having divorced Ceſſucia, aged ſeventeen years, without conſummating his marriage, he eſpouſed Cornelia, the daughter of Cinna, diſtinguiſhed by four conſulſhips; from this marriage was born the celebrated Julia. Sylla, who was then dictator, and all powerful at Rome, exerted every effort to engage Cæſar to divorce Cornelia, but could not prevail.

THIS attachment, ſo paſſionate and conſtant, in an ambitious young man, coſt him the prieſthood, the dower of his wife, which was conſiderable,

derable, the wealth which might deſcend to him; in ſhort, Sylla gave orders to arreſt him; and to eſcape death, Cæſar was obliged to conceal himſelf, by changing his place of reſidence every night, although he had a quartan ague, and to diſtribute money with a liberal hand to thoſe who were employed to ſeize him; he at laſt obtained favour through the ſolicitation of the veſtals; it was then Sylla foreſaw the future greatneſs of this young Roman. It is known that Cæſar afterwards did not retain his former conſtancy for the fair-ſex; he found few of them inflexible; and yet, with all his greatneſs, his honour, his talents, could not eſcape the fate of moſt huſbands.

He eſpouſed, in his third marriage, Pompeia daughter of Quintus Pompius Rufus. Whether it was before or after his marriage, but Pompeia ſuffered herſelf to be ſeduced by the celebrated Clodius; but ſhe was ſo cloſely watched by Cæſar and her mother-in-law, that ſhe could not obtain a favourable opportunity of ſeeing her lover. She thought, however, to accompliſh this, the day on which they celebrated the rights of Venus, at her houſe; Clodius, diſguiſed in woman's cloaths, paſſed for a ſinger, and was introduced among the reſt. Unfortunately he was diſcovered, and Pompeia divorced.

"It

"It is not enough for the wife of Cæſar (ſaid he "in diſmiſſing her) that ſhe ſhould be innocent, "ſhe muſt alſo be exempt from ſuſpicion." But it is certain, ſays an author, Cæſar was perſuaded of his wife's infidelity. Suetonius, at leaſt, does not doubt it, for he heſitates not to ſay, that Pompeia had committed adultery with Clodius. Cæſar not content with divorcing his wife, even reſolved to purſue Clodius. The proſecution was at firſt ſuſpended, on account of the triumph of Pompey, who returned from Aſia; but afterwards Cæſar purſued it with great ſpirit againſt Clodius; happy for the latter all were venal at Rome; money and love ſaved him.

Of his judges ſome were gained by money, others by their miſtreſſes; Cicero himſelf, the conſul, ſo formidable to Catiline, took the part of Clodius, becauſe he was paſſionately in love with Clodia his ſiſter. This connexion was public, they jeſted upon it at Rome; but Terentia, the wife of Cicero, who had the greateſt aſcendency over her huſband, and who feared that his attachment to Clodia might induce him to divorce her, obliged him to depoſe againſt Clodius. Nevertheleſs, this depoſition and the acknowledged crime of Clodius, did not prevent his being acquitted.

Upon Cæſar's return from Spain, where he had

had at length ſubdued all to the republic, he made intereſt for the conſulſhip: Pompey and Caſſius were in thoſe times all powerful at Rome. Cæſar had the addreſs to unite the intereſts of theſe two great men, and joining his own with them, formed that triumvirate which ended in the deſtruction of the Roman republic. One of the firſt advantages Cæſar drew from this union was the conſulſhip; nevertheleſs, the power and high reputation of Pompey gave umbrage to Cæſar, who undertook to bring over that great man wholly to his party, and he ſucceeded. Cæſar had a daughter, whoſe ſtriking beauty was enhanced by a virtue, the more eſteemable, as corruption was then general at Rome. Many ſolicited the hand of Julia, but Pompey was preferred before all his rivals. From this moment he only ſaw through the eyes of his wife, whom he adored; and Julia had no other will but that of Cæſar her father. "Thus, by bonds of the heart, Pompey "became the ſlave of Cæſar, without perceiving "it."

THE union of theſe two great men continued during the life of Julia, whom Pompey was accuſed of loving too well; but this eſtimable woman dying in child-birth, Pompey and Cæſar were not long before they were at variance. It is known that Pompey, ſubdued by Cæſar, took

refuge

refuge in Egypt, where he was aſſaſſinated; and that his vanquiſher was not able to forbear ſhedding tears on ſeeing his head, which they brought to him. Soon, however, he nearly eſcaped periſhing himſelf, and love, in procuring him the greateſt favours, conducted him to the brink of a precipice.

The kingdom of Egypt was at that time rent by internal diviſions. Ptolemy Auletes being dead, had ordered by his will, that Ptolemy Dioniſius, his eldeſt ſon, ſhould eſpouſe his ſiſter Cleopatra, the eldeſt of his daughters, and that they ſhould reign together. The miniſters of the young prince refuſed to fulfil this laſt clauſe, and forced Cleopatra to ſeek ſuccours in Syria.

She was there when Cæſar embarked for Alexandria; which ſhe no ſooner heard, than ſhe haſtened to him to plead her own cauſe, certain that her charms would incline the balance on her ſide. She was not miſtaken; Cæſar had a lively penchant for the women; and the ſight of Cleopatra alone, was calculated to excite the moſt paſſionate deſires.

In the flower of her age, there was united in her face all the traits that form the moſt captivating beauty; and to theſe charms ſhe joined the moſt ſprightly and faſcinating wit. From the moment ſhe appeared before Cæſar, ſhe made all the

the impreſſion ſhe could wiſh; poſſeſſion but encreaſed his paſſion; and this Roman, this hero, who, in the battle of Pharſalia, conquered the univerſe, whoſe preſence was abſolutely neceſſary at Rome, to deſtroy the remaining partiſans of Pompey, in the arms of Cleopatra appeared to forget that he was Cæſar; ſo wholly was he loſt in voluptuous pleaſures. From this moment the diſpute between Cleopatra and her brother was determined; love gave a queen to Egypt, and Ptolemy, in ſpight of the laſt will of his father, found himſelf overcome by his ſiſter. This deciſion, dictated by love, put Cæſar in the greateſt danger of his life.

ACHILLAS, miniſter of the young prince, was at the head of an army of Egyptians, numerous and well diſciplined; he was the declared enemy Cleopatra, and judged that if ſhe aſcended the throne, he could only expect death. Thus ſituated, he reſolved that the princeſs and her lover ſhould periſh; and the enterprize appeared to him eaſy.

CÆSAR, who had brought with him but few troops, was not in a ſituation to make head againſt Achillas. Shut up in the palace at Alexandria, he ſaw himſelf beſieged by the Egyptian army, having againſt him all the inhabitants of the city, and no other reſource but in his good-

fortune,

fortune, his valour, and his genius. He could, it is true, eaſily have eſcaped by his ſhips, but to leave his dear Cleopatra to the mercy of a furious populous, was what he could not reſolve on.

THUS love expoſed, in this moment, the fruit of ſo much trouble, toil, and victory. His embarraſſment was preſently known in the neighbouring countries; and they haſtened to the aſſiſtance of him who was ſoon to give laws to the univerſe; but the Egyptian fleet oppoſed the paſſage of theſe ſuccours. Many battles were faught, in which Cæſar was ſeveral times on the point of loſing his life.

THE death of Ptolemy put an end to theſe troubles; Cæſar had only now to place the diadem on the head of Cleopatra; he declared her ſovereign of Egypt, gave her in marriage to her young brother, then an infant and after having languiſhed during nine months in indolence, he at length recollected that affairs of the utmoſt importance called him to Rome; he quitted Alexandria with regret, leaving Cleopatra pregnant of an infant, of which a ſhort time after ſhe was delivered, and who bore the name of Cæſarion.

CÆSAR, in the height of his glory, and abſolute maſter of the univerſe, did not forget his beloved Cleopatra: he boldly invited her to Rome, lodged her

her in his palace, and ſeemed to pay little attention to the murmurs this ſcandalous conduct excited. The Spaniſh war once more tore him from the arms of the woman he adored; he ſent her back loaded with honours and gifts.

His paſſion for this princeſs was ſo violent, that they ſay, he drew up an edict, which permitted every man to have as many wives as he pleaſed; and this was ſolely to render his marriage with Cleopatra lawful, and to legetimatiſe the young Cæſarian, who was the true portrait of his father. He had, however, prudence enough to ſuppreſs this edict. We will not conclude this article without obſerving a trait that proves how much the ſenate was debaſed in the time of Cæſar; they deliberated whether they ſhould not grant him the privilege of poſſeſſing every woman he pleaſed.

Anno of Rome 706.

CHARLES II.

WHEN Charles II. king of England, aſcended the throne, yet ſtained with the blood of his unhappy father, he created chancellor of the realm, and prime miniſter, Edwarde Hyde, Earl of Clarendon; and his choice was generally ap-

plauded. All admired, in that great man, a probity the moſt exact, and a zeal for his party the moſt conſtant. Sojourning in ſtrange courts during the misfortunes of Charles I. he had aſſiſted Charles II. with his councils, and had ſhared with him in all his ſituations.

He had during a long time retained the higheſt degree of his ſovereign's favour; but the auſterity of his wiſdom not permitting him to enter into any correſpondence with the miſtreſſes of the king, he had the misfortune to diſpleaſe the Ducheſs of Cleveland. "A profuſe woman, "rapacious, diſſolute, violent, and vindictive. "She failed not to undermine the credit of Cla- "rendon, and he ſoon found, by the event, that "ſhe had not employed herſelf without ſucceſs." Charles, influenced by the Ducheſs, inſenſibly conceived that diſguſt which terminated in the removal of the miniſter. The nation, indeed, laid ſome things to the charge of Clarendon, but their charges, for the moſt part without foundation, would not have made any impreſſion on the mind of the king, had not love and the women, torn from his heart the friendſhip which he always entertained for Clarendon.

This monarch, too much given up to his pleaſures, had not been able to conquer his diſtaſte to the queen, and the ſterility of that princeſs, ſtill encreaſed

encreaſed the averſion of her huſband. The beauty of Miſs Stuart, daughter of a Scottiſh gentleman, made the moſt lively impreſſion on the heart of Charles. As he experienced a reſiſtance more than ordinary from the virtue of this young beauty, he thought ſeriouſly of a divorce from the queen. The chancellor, through zeal to his maſter, perhaps a little too through intereſt for the children of his daughter, who had married the Duke of York, engaged the Duke of Richmond to marry Miſs Stuart. This ſtep, which had the deſired ſucceſs, ended in the diſgrace of the Earl of Clarendon. Charles retained ſo lively a reſentment, that he forbad the duke and ducheſs the court, and never after pardoned this device of the chancellor's. The ſeals were taken from him; his enemies, not content with this fall, obtained againſt him a bill of baniſhment and incapacity, which was confirmed by the king.

CLARENDON withdrew himſelf into France, where he employed his leiſure hours in compoſing a hiſtory of the civil wars of his country, a work which does great honour to his memory.

Anno 1667.

CHATILLON.

THE Ducheſs de Chatillon endeavoured by her charms to gain friends for the great Prince de Condé, who headed the Spaniards againſt his country; ſhe inſpired the Mareſchal D'Hocquincourt, governor of Peronne, with a paſſion for her, and obliged him to enter into a treaty with the Prince. Still more to pleaſe the Ducheſs, the Mareſchal engaged in his party thoſe who commanded at Hedin, inſomuch, that they refuſed to open the gates of that city to thoſe who came to take the government on the part of the King. This manœuvre would have rendered the Spaniards maſters of the frontiers, by the way of a route opened to them by Peronne; but the Mareſchal D'Hocquincourt, who had not taken his meaſures well, loſt his government, and in addition to his misfortune, perceived that he had a rival in the heart of Madame de Chatillon, and that his rival was preferred.

NOT knowing what to do in this cruel ſituation, he retired into Flanders, where the Spaniards endeavoured, by their kind treatment, to make him amends for what he had loſt, but they were not able to prevent his repentance for having

ing liſtened ſo much to his paſſion. His wife was ſo fortunate as to have the government of Peronne given to her ſon, and to prevent the confiſcation of her huſband's effects.

A SHORT time after the Mareſchal being come with the Spaniſh army to raiſe the ſiege of Dunkirk, was wounded in the battle that M. de Turenne gave, and expired a few days after, ſincerely grieved, that having been the dupe of a pair of fine eyes, he died bearing arms againſt his king.

Anno 1658.

CHATEAUBRIANT.

THE Counteſs de Chateaubriant was the daughter of Phœbus de Grailly, of the houſe of Foix, and ſiſter of the Mareſchal de Lautrec and De Foix. All who ſpeak of her, agree ſhe was of ſingular beauty. One of them pretends, "That the greateſt misfortune of a man who "ſhould become blind, would be the having ſeen "her, and afterwards to be deprived of that hap-"pineſs."

THIS uncommon beauty was celebrated from the age of twelve; it was at that period the Count de Chateaubriant, of the houſe of Laval,

ſought her in marriage. Without portion, his propoſition was readily accepted; and this young beauty was reſigned into the arms of a man ſhe did not love. It muſt be confeſſed, that his conduct was not ſuch as to gain the heart of his wife; jealous to an exceſs, he confined her in a caſtle, where he permitted her to ſee none but himſelf; the moſt certain way to inſpire a woman with the deſire of ſeeing others. Chance, at length, wreſted from this jealous man the treaſure he guarded with ſo much care.

OBLIGED to repair to the court of Francis I. to defend a law-ſuit of the greateſt conſequence, upon which his whole fortune depended, the king aſked the Count de Chauteaubriant, why he had not brought his wife with him; adding, ſhe was young and handſome, and with theſe qualities was ſure to be an ornament to his court. The Count replied, that his wife hated the great world, and only delighted in ſolitude; but the king preſſed him ſo often, that he at length gave a promiſe, that he would write to his wife to come to him.

THE Count knew well that this letter would not produce the expected effect, becauſe he had agreed with the Counteſs, that ſhe ſhould not leave the caſtle without a bracelet of hair, of which ſhe had made him a preſent; and the bracelet

bracelet did not accompany the letter, at leaſt he believed ſo; but he was ignorant of the force of love.

M. DE LAUTREC, brother of the Counteſs, entertained a paſſion for one of her ladies, and greatly deſired that his ſiſter ſhould come to court, that he might ſee his miſtreſs; the young lady, who equally deſired it as her lover, informed by him of all that had paſſed, ſent him a bracelet worked with her miſtreſs's hair, and exactly reſembling that ſhe had given to her huſband.

THE bracelet being ſent to the Counteſs, with the letter from the Count, ſhe preſently began her journey, with her attendants. On her arrival, ſhe eaſily proved to her jealous huſband, that ſhe had been deceived: the miſchief was done; he could do no more than prevent a greater; but the Count de Chateaubriant grew frantic; regarding himſelf already as diſhonoured, he abandoned his wife and his law-ſuit, and retired to his caſtle in Britanny.

A YOUNG and beautiful woman, yet unexperienced, and admired by a king as amiable and gallant as Francis I. was in great danger of forgetting her virtue. This was the caſe in which we find the Counteſs de Chateaubriant. Her beauty made the moſt lively impreſſion on the heart of the king; and he was not long before

he acquainted her with it. The Counteſs, proud of her virtue, relied too much upon it: the reſiſtance ſhe at firſt oppoſed, made the king fear ſhe would not yield; but the match was unequal. The little god was conqueror, and the Count de Chateaubriant, in his retirement, was ſoon informed, that his wife was become the miſtreſs of a great king, and that ſhe was the diſtributer of favors and rewards. The brothers of the Counteſs thought they ought to profit by this circumſtance, but the incenſed huſband refuſed all, and inwardly ſwore, in a ſignal manner, to avenge his honour.

Francis I. called into Italy, left the Counteſs at the court. The battle of Pavia, where he was made priſoner, retarded his return. During his abſence, the Ducheſs D'Angoulême, mother to the king, inflicted ſo many mortifications on the Counteſs de Chateaubriant, that ſhe rather preferred to return to her huſband. She found him incenſed and inexorable; he abſolutely refuſed to ſee her, and made the ſervants conduct her into an apartment hung with black.

In vain this faulty, but charming woman, writ a letter in the moſt ſubmiſſive terms to her huſband; he was inflexible, and if he did not take her life upon the ſpot, it was owing to ſome remains

mains of affection which, in ſpight of himſelf, he ſtill felt for her.

When the King had regained his liberty, the Count de Chateaubriant, fearing that prince would exert his authority to raviſh his wife from him, entered the apartment of the Counteſs, accompanied by ſeveral maſked ruffians, to acquaint her that ſhe muſt die. She made little reſiſtance: they opened her veins, and her barbarous huſband had the cruelty to ſtay till ſhe had breathed her laſt ſigh. After this ſevere vengeance, he eſcaped to England, and never returned to France, till after having given the houſe that bore his name to the High Conſtable de Montmorency, to ſhelter himſelf from the purſuit that the parents of his wife made after him.

CHIOMARE.

AFTER the defeat of Antiochus, king of Perſia, by Scipio Aſiaticus, the Romans reſolved to puniſh the Gauliſh-Greeks, who had given ſuccours to Antiochus; and who, beſides, made frightful ravages in Aſia. The Conſul, Manlius, ſucceſſor to Scipio, marched his army againſt this people; a party of whom they found had taken refuge on mount Olympus.

The bravery and perſeverence of the Romans, vanquiſhed Nature and the Gauls, the greater part of whom were made priſoners.

Of this laſt number was Chiomare, the wife of Ortiagon, king of the Toliſtoboges, a princeſs of exquiſite beauty; whom the Conſul, in the heat of the carnage, had conſigned to a centurion. It was difficult to behold Chiomare and not be captivated by her charms. Her ſituation made the Roman believe that he might dare every thing. Mortified to meet an obſtinate reſiſtance, he had recourſe to violence to ſatisfy his brutality.

INTEREST at length took place of love, he propoſed, for a certain ſum which he fixed, to reſtore the beautiful captive to liberty. Ortiagon, to whom this was communicated, delayed not to ſend the ranſom for his wife: it was night when the centurion went to receive it, and to deliver his captive into the hands of her parents. Chiomare, anxious for an opportunity to revenge the loſs of her honour, told her parents, in the language of her country, to *kill the Roman*, which they preſently did, and Chiomare carried to her huſband the bloody head of the centurion.

ON this ſpectacle, Ortiagon demanded whether ſhe had preſerved her conjugal fidelity? "I "call the gods to witneſs, (replied the virtuous "queen) that if my perſon has ſuffered the in-"dignities of ſervitude, I am revenged. Here

"is

"is the head of the infamous raviſher of *my* "honour and of *yours*." The hiſtorian adds, that the king was enchanted with the virtue and courage of his queen, and that he loved and eſteemed her more than ever.

COMMINGES (COUNT DE)

THE Count de Comminges, whoſe misfortunes have been celebrated by M. le Duc de la Valliere, and recently by M. Arnand, was deſcended from one of the moſt illuſtrious families of the kingdom. Being an only ſon, he was heir to a great title, ſupported by one of the moſt conſiderable fortunes.

LOVE, which took poſſeſſion of his heart in the moſt early age, procured him ſome of thoſe pleaſures ſo flattering to lovers, but cauſed the misfortunes of his life; misfortunes! infinitely ſurprizing, by the circumſtances that accompanied them, and their fatal termination; if, however, one may give credit to the memoirs which contain them.

BRED up from infancy with a couſin-german, the Count de Comminges acquired the ſoft habit of believing they were deſtined never to be ſeperated. The intereſts of the family, a detail of which would here be ſuperfluous, diſunited the

parents of the young people, and created betwixt them the moſt implacable hatred. From that moment the Count was abſolutely forbid to ſee his couſin, named Adelaide de Luſſan, and his father's whole attention was bent upon means to deſtroy and ruin his brother.

THESE means exiſted in papers, which would enable him to ſeize upon the whole fortune of the Marquis de Luſſan. The young Count de Comminges was furniſhed with theſe papers, which he had found in an abby, when he rencontered Mademoiſelle de Luſſan, whoſe graces and beauty, which were perfected ſince the rupture between the two families, could not fail of making the moſt lively impreſſions; ſuch was the effect they produced upon the heart of the count. Solely engroſſed with his paſſion, he forgot that his father, a man harſh and inflexible, would never conſent to a union, to which his hatred proved an inſuperable obſtacle: he believed (and it is ſaid Love renders all things poſſible) that in deſtroying the papers, of which he was the bearer, he ſhould force his father to a reconciliation with his family.

FULL of this idea, he threw the papers into the fire, and obtained of Mademoiſelle de Luſſan a confeſſion which encreaſed his hopes; he then left her to ſeek his father.

IT was then the young Count perceived that his imagination had promiſed too much. His prayers, his ſubmiſſions, made not the leaſt impreſſion upon his father; who would have proceeded to the greateſt extremities againſt his ſon, had not Madame de Comminges interfered and moderated his fury; but he inſiſted upon the young Count's abſenting himſelf to a caſtle, which proved to him a grateful priſon; ſolitude cheriſhing both his love and hope. Soon after, his father came to inform him, that he muſt prepare to give his hand, in a few days, to a lady of the houſe of Foix.

THE young Count ſoftened his refuſal by the moſt tender and reſpectful expreſſions; but his father was not the leſs obdurate; and conſidering him no longer as his ſon, but an enemy who had deceived him, he confined him in a dungeon.

IT was here, to encreaſe his misfortune, he received a letter from Mademoiſelle de Luſſan, in which ſhe acquainted him, that being aſſured the only means to reſtore him to liberty, was to marry, ſhe was going to make that ſacrifice, whatever pain it coſt her. This letter was a clap of thunder to the unfortunate De Comminges. He ſaw the only happineſs he deſired raviſhed from him, without being able to complain;

plain; ſince it was an exceſs of love that cauſed his miſtreſs to reſign herſelf into the arms of another.

It now appeared time to ſtifle a paſſion hitherto only productive of misfortunes, and which could never be gratified; the Count de Comminges did not take this wiſe part: informed by a domeſtic he had bribed, that Mademoiſelle de Luſſan, become the wife of the Count de Benavides, had been carried to the ſide of the Pyrenees, he ſoftened his gaoler, and obtained leave to go with his ſervant to the caſtle, which contained all he held dear in the world.

He introduced himſelf in the quality of a painter; ſome days paſſed without his ſeeing Madam Benavides; chance, at length, afforded him an opportunity. He made uſe of it to expreſs his anguiſh and deſpair. He was on his knees to utter his laſt farewel, when the Count de Benavides opened the door. Believing himſelf deceived by his wife, he put his hand upon his ſword to kill both her and her lover. The Count de Comminges, who had alſo a ſword to defend himſelf, ſeeing that his antagoniſt was preparing to kill his wife, loſt all conduct, and ſtretched him upon the floor, mortally wounded. The ſervants, drawn by the cries of their miſtreſs, ſeized the Count, and confined him; but

the

the next day they came to reſtore him his liberty, and conducted him to a convent that was near the caſtle. There he learnt that the Count de Benavides was cured of his wounds, and that his lady was dead.

THE Count de Comminges, no longer able to doubt but that by his imprudence he had cauſed the death of the woman he adored, renounced the world, and entered into the order of La Trappe. Like Eloiſa, he long offered to the image of Madam de Benavides (of whom he had preſerved a portrait) thoſe vows which were due to God alone. He believed he had exhauſted the darts of misfortune, but providence had ſpared one, of which he was more ſenſible than the reſt. The bell announces to the religious, that one of their brothers is dying, they aſſemble round him to edify, and learn how to die. This brother is Adelaide de Luſſan, who had unfortunately paſſed for dead. Upon the death of her huſband, which happened a ſhort time after his accident, ſhe expected to find the Count de Comminges with his family. Not having been able to procure any intelligence of him, ſhe abandoned the world; and having entered the church of La Trappe, ſhe had there diſcovered the voice of her lover, and been received into the order, having no other gratification in view, than to ſee

the

the Count, to follow him, without making herſelf known, and without ſpeaking to him. Adelaide expired after this confeſſion, which ſhe made with great difficulty.

THIS affecting ſcene concluded, by throwing M. de Comminges into the deepeſt deſpair. They were forced to uſe violence to tear him from the body of his beloved Adelaide.

HE obtained permiſſion from the father of the abby, to withdraw himſelf to an hermitage, where he never ceaſed to lament what he had loſt.

COUCY.

M. DE COUCY, a ſprightly, agreeable, and valiant nobleman, vaſſal of the Count de Champigne, was paſſionately in love with the lady of Lord Fayel. She was named Gabriella, and was deſcended from the ancient houſe of the Lords de Vergy, in Burgandy. This lady, who had loved Raoul de Coucy before her marriage, probably, in reſigning herſelf, ſpight of her inclinations, into the arms of another, had not been able to forget De Coucy. She learnt, with the moſt poignant grief, that he was ready to depart for the Holy-Land, with the king and the Count de Champagne; nevertheleſs ſhe would

would not oppoſe his departure, hoping that his abſence would diſſipate the jealouſy of her huſband.

THE hour of ſeparation being arrived, the two lovers parted, after having given proofs of the moſt lively tenderneſs. M. de Coucy, who courted the Muſes, left with his miſtreſs a copy of verſes he had compoſed in honour of her. She, on her ſide, preſented him with rings, diamonds, and above all, with a cordon ſhe had beautifully worked with hair and ſilk, having large buttons of pearl at the extremities, ſerving, according to the cuſtom of thoſe times, to tie a magnificent band* they put under the helmet.

THESE gifts, ſo precious in the eyes of a lover, unfortunately do not render him invulnerable; Raoul de Courcy proved this: he was mortally wounded at the ſiege of Acre; when finding there was no hope of life, he made uſe of the few moments there remained to write to Madam Fayel, in terms that is eaſy to be imagined. He then ordered his ſquire, after his death, to embalm his heart, and carry it to his miſtreſs with the letter, and the preſents ſhe had made him, which he always carried about him. The ſquire, having in part executed the commands of

* Bourlette.

his

his maſter, returned to France to conclude them; but this was the moſt difficult.

CONCEALED within a wood, near the caſtle, where Madam de Fayel was, this faithful domeſtic awaited a favourable opportunity to deliver the depoſit into her hands. He had the misfortune to be encountered by the Lord du Fayel, who knew him; and who, judging that he came to ſeek his wife on behalf of his maſter, threatened to kill him if he did not diſcover the purport of his journey. The ſquire replied, that his maſter was dead. Du Fayel, treating him as an impoſtor, was preparing to kill him, when the man, alarmed at his danger, related all, and gave up the heart and letter of his maſter.

THESE ſad remains of the lover, ſerved to execute the moſt horrid vengeance jealouſy could deviſe. Du Fayel's cook had orders to dreſs, with other viands, the heart of De Coucy, and to make of it a diſh they knew would be to the taſte of their lady: ſhe finding the ragout palatable, eat heartily of it. Her inhuman huſband had the cruelty to let her know that ſhe had eaten the heart of De Coucy; as ſhe doubted, he made her read the letter of her lover, and ſhewed her the cordon of hair, and the diamonds which ſhe had given him. This unfortunate woman, who could

could no longer doubt her misfortune, ſaid to her huſband—"It is true, that I have greatly loved "that heart which merited to be ſo beloved, "as there never was one more generous. "Since I have eaten a meal ſo noble, and that "my ſtomach is become the tomb of a gem ſo "precious, I will keep it carefully from baſer "mixtures."

GRIEF and rage interrupted her ſpeech; ſhe retired into her chamber, drowned in tears, where ſhe confined herſelf; and not having taken ſuſtenance during four days, died, finiſhing her life amidſt groans and ſighs.

Anno 1191.

MEZERAY pretends that Roaul de Coucy periſhed in the Cruſade de Saint Louis, anno 1246.

D.

DAIN (OLIVER LE)

OLIVER LE DAIN, or Le Daim, had diſcovered the ſecret of pleaſing Louis XI. king of France, which was not an eaſy taſk, and attained to ſo high a degree of that prince's favour,

vour, that he was loaded with honors. It is very difficult not to abuſe power and to forbear giving ourſelves up to our paſſions, when we are almoſt ſure of impunity. Thus it happened to Le Dain.

A GENTLEMAN arreſted by order of the king, was in great danger of his life; his wife, who was tenderly attached to him, ardently ſolicited his pardon; and thought ſhe could not apply to a more powerful protector than Oliver le Dain. She was young and handſome; her tears and her grief encreaſed and embelliſhed her charms; ſhe made an impreſſion on the favourite, who was not aſhamed to promiſe this unhappy woman the pardon of her huſband, on condition that ſhe would make him a ſacrifice of her honour. The alternative was cruel; honour carried it. This virtuous woman had the liberty of ſeeing her huſband; to whom ſhe imparted the propoſitions of Le Dain. The unfortunate priſoner conjured his wife to ſave him, and had ſo much the aſcendent as to determine her. The crime was conſummated.

THIS unfortunate victim of conjugal love, now propoſed to dry her tears in the arms of her huſband; ignorant that the favours, which had been wreſted from her, had cauſed his death.

THE barbarous Oliver, to have longer poſſeſ-

ſion

ſion of a woman he admired, ordered the huſband to be put into a ſack and thrown into the river. The corpſe, diſcovered by ſome fiſhermen, acquainted his wife with her misfortune. She remained ſilent during the reign of Louis XI. Her tears and groans would not have reached the throne. After the death of that prince, and under the reign of Charles VIII. ſhe became the accuſer of Le Dain, who was hanged with the accomplice in his guilt, who took away the life of the huſband.

DAMVILLE.

DAMVILLE, ſon of the celebrated high-conſtable De Montmorency, was Mareſchal of France and governor of Languedoc. The high favour of the Guiſes, ſworn enemy to his houſe, and the impriſonment of the Mareſchal de Montmorency, made Damville ſuſpicious of the court, which on that account he did not frequent, but kept within his government, where he reigned all-powerful. After the ſecond edict of the peace granted to the Huegunots by Henry III. Damville, who would not leave Languedoc, became enamoured of a woman of Beaucaire, named Tourette, whoſe beauty was of no common ſort; but his title of governor, his puiſſance and reputation,

putation, made no impreſſion on her heart. She had given it to Parabere, governor of Beaucaire, and to facilitate their interviews, was come to lodge near the caſtle. The jealouſy of the Mareſchal incited him to revenge himſelf in the moſt cruel manner. He ſtirred up ſome officers, malcontents of the governor; who being joined by ſeveral inhabitants, and likewiſe by the parents of the lady, they killed her with Parabere, and afterwards ſeized upon the city. The ſoldiers who were in the caſtle, and who refuſed to ſurrender, called upon Chatillon to revenge the death of their governor. This nobleman entered the caſtle with three thouſand men: the city of Beaucaire would have been deſtroyed on account of a woman, had not the court and the King of Navarre ſent the quickeſt orders.

Anno 1664.

DAUMONT.

THE Mareſchal Daumont, ſo well known from his attachment to his country and king, who heſitated not a moment to acknowledge Henry IV. and who rendered him the greateſt ſervices; this nobleman, who was ſo greatly eſteemed by the two parties, that if it had been neceſſary to produce a French chevalier without reproach,

proach, all the world would have turned their eyes upon Daumont; this worthy ſervant of Henry IV. died, from having too eaſily delivered himſelf up to love, in an age when that paſſion begins to ſubſide.

He was governor of Britainny for the king, and had there fought againſt the Duke de Mercœur, who held for the faction. Ann D'Aligre, widow of the Count de Laval, by her beauty made an impreſſion upon the heart of Daumont, and at the ſame time had inſpired Saint Luc, general officer who ſerved under the Mareſchal, with a ſimilar paſſion. This lady was extremely intereſted in, and deſirous that they ſhould beſiege Comper; ſhe imparted her ſentiments to Saint Luc, and he made them known to the Mareſchal Daumont. The enterprize was, at leaſt, imprudent; the garriſon of Comper was numerous, compoſed of excellent troops; the ſeaſon of the year oppoſed the deſign; in ſhort the greater part of the officers were not able to diſſemble, that the ſiege, in the preſent circumſtances, was impracticable. The Mareſchal, who thought himſelf happy in an opportunity to pleaſe the beautiful Counteſs, ſcorned the difficulties; attended not to their advice, and undertook the ſiege.

The deſire of victory, in ſpight of the obſtacles,

ſtacles, and above all of diſplaying his triumph in the eyes of the Counteſs de Laval, cauſed the Mareſchal to preſs the ſiege vigorouſly, and to expoſe himſelf too much; for he received a ſtroke from an arquebuſe, on the right arm, that broke the two bones between the elbow and the hand; he was conducted to Montfort to the Count de Laval's, where his miſtreſs was. There yet remained ſome hope, but he died the ſixteenth day after his wound, aged ſixty, regretted by his king and the whole realm.

Anno 1595.

DELMANY.

THE commiſſioners of the Cuſtom-houſe near Colcheſter, ſtopped a trunk, ſuſpected to contain contraband goods. Their ſuſpicions encreaſed, when the perſon to whom it belonged, drew his ſword and threatened to kill the firſt who ſhould attempt to open it, declaring at the ſame time, that it contained the corpſe of his wife. The ſtranger being at length diſarmed, they opened the coffer, and really found it to contain the corpſe of a woman. The whole was depoſited in a church, and as the circumſtances authoriſed a ſuſpicion of murder, they took the pretended huſband into cuſtody, till he ſhould give a ſatisfactory

factory account of himſelf. He diſſolved into tears; and, affecting to ſpeak only French, declared that he was a Florentine nobleman; that, having about four years paſt made a voyage into England, he became deſperately in love with his wife, of whom they beheld the remains; that he had married and carried her into his country, from whence he had conducted her to moſt of the European courts to which he had travelled; that, being ſeized during theſe travels with a fatal malady, a few moments before her death ſhe had aſked for paper, pen and ink, and had writ theſe words: "I am the wife of the Reverend "Mr. G——, rector of T—— in Eſſex; my "maiden name is Caumont; and my laſt deſire "is, to be buried in the church of T——." He added, that it was in conſequence of this requeſt that he carried, in a ſhell, the precious relics of a wife he had adored. Upon further enquiry, this declaration was found to be true, excepting only, that this pretended Florentine nobleman was the Lord Delmany, eldeſt ſon of Lord Roſeberry of Scotland. He had really married the deceaſed, and had been ignorant that ſhe was the wife of another. What is the more ſingular, the rector of T—— was ſtill living; and, when he was informed a ſecond huſband had brought the corpſe of his wife, he gave himſelf up to the

moſt violent tranſports of choler: he ſaid, that he conſented to render to that unfaithful woman the laſt debt, due to thoſe whoſe faults death had expiated; but, for the huſband, he was determined, if he ever ſaw him, it ſhould be to poignard him.

LORD DELMANY, on the other ſide, proteſted that he would never loſe ſight of the body of his wife, till he had himſelf depoſited it in the tomb ſhe had choſen; and if the Rector performed his menaces, he would render him an eſſential ſervice, ſince he could form no other wiſh than to rejoin his beloved wife.

THE Rector at length, underſtanding that the Lord was not culpable, conſented to ſee him; they intermingled their tears, put on deep mourning, and united to pay the laſt duties to her whoſe exit afflicted them both, but in a different manner.

Anno 1752.

DEMETRIUS NICATOR.

DEMETRIUS NICATOR, eldeſt ſon of Demetrius Soter, King of Syria, ſaw his father dethroned by an adventurer named Alexander Bala; he was ſo fortunate as to eſcape death, with his brother Antiochus Sidetas.

APPRIZED

APPRIZED in his retreat that the uſurper was deteſted by all his ſubjects, he preſented himſelf to them to re-aſcend the throne which belonged to him. This ſtep had the happieſt ſucceſs: but he had ſoon a competitor in the ſon of Bala; and afterward in Tryphon, another uſurper. Demetrius followed Antiochus, and retired into the provinces of the Eaſt, bearing arms againſt the Parthians. After ſome ſucceſs, he was vanquiſhed and taken priſoner. But his conqueror conceived the greateſt eſteem for him; and, excepting liberty, did every thing to ſoften his fate. It was in this ſtate that Demetrius, forgetting he had eſpouſed Cleopatra, daughter of Ptolemy Philometor, king of Egypt, and the widow of Bala, had the imprudence to marry Rhodogune, the daughter of Phraates, king of the Parthians. This news having reached the ear of Cleopatra, ſhe conceived the moſt violent jealouſy, and revenged herſelf cruelly.

SHE eſpouſed, in her turn, Antiochus Sidetas, brother of Demetrius. After the death of this new huſband, who was killed fighting againſt the Parthians, ſhe ſteadily refuſed to unite with Demetrius, although he was returned to Syria, and had re-aſcended the throne. A man named Alexander Zebina, who paſſed for the ſon of Bala, being raiſed up to diſpute the crown with

Nicator, conquered; and this Prince, who had all his life experienced the viciſſitudes of fortune, was obliged to fly. He retired toward Ptolemais, where Cleopatra his wife commanded; but as this Princeſs had not yet pardoned Demetrius his infidelity, ſhe cauſed the gates of the city to be ſhut againſt him. He then paſſed into Tyre, where he was killed.

We ſhall here mention, in few words, the atrocious deeds of Cleopatra. Of the two ſons ſhe had by Nicator, the eldeſt attained to an age to reign, and was named Seleucus; his mother, ambitious and cruel, *herſelf* plunged a poignard into his boſom, to preſerve her authority.

When ſhe perceived that the people murmured to obey a woman, ſhe cauſed Antiochus, her ſecond ſon, ſurnamed Grypus, on account of his large noſe, to be proclaimed king. His youth, at preſent, prevented his taking part in the adminiſtration, and Cleopatra reigned alone; but when ſhe perceived that the young Prince, freed from Zebina, who diſputed the empire with him, ſtrove to ſhake off her yoke, ſhe heſitated not to ſacrifice the ſentiments of Nature to her ambition, and preſented Antiochus with a cup of poiſon, as he returned from taking a violent exerciſe; but the Prince being forewarned of it, forced his mother to ſwallow the beverage.

Such

Such was the end of this Princeſs, the wife of three kings, the mother of four; who had cauſed the death of two of her huſbands, and killed one of her ſons.

Anno of the world 5884.

DESBARREAU.

JAMES DE VALLEE, Lord Deſbarreau, ſo well known by his wit and libertiniſm, was counſellor of the parliament of Paris. Love, who was always his favourite divinity, obliged him to give up his poſt, and likewiſe to leave the kingdon; at leaſt it is ſo reported by an hiſtorian, whoſe words we ſhall copy.

"THE Cardinal de Richelieu ſaw Marion de "Lormes without being ſeen, and found her a "thouſand times more beautiful than he imagin- "ed. He wiſhed to know if Saint Mars was "beloved, and commiſſioned Boiſrobert to diſ- "cover it. This Abbe ſoon gave his Eminence "the ecclairciſſement he wiſhed, and informed "him, that in the attachment of Marion de Lor- "mes for the favourite of the king, vanity had a "greater part than love, and that all the tender- "neſs of this girl reſted with Deſbarreau, coun- "ſellor of the parliament, a young man of good

" figure, of a lively wit, and pleaſant converſa-
" tion, but withal debauched and impious."

THE Cardinal made a propoſal to Deſbarreau, by Boiſrobert, that if he would give up to him his miſtreſs, and engage her to comply with his deſires, he would acknowledge the ſacrifice by doing every thing he could wiſh toward the advancement of his fortune.

BOISROBERT acquitted himſelf of his commiſſion with great addreſs; but Deſbarreau replied to this overture only in pleaſantry, feigning always to believe the Cardinal incapable of ſuch a weakneſs. This miniſter was ſo irritated, that he perſecuted Deſbarreau while he lived, and obliged him to give up his poſt, and to leave the kingdom.

Anno 1629.

DIOGENES.

LOVE, the little god, whoſe mighty power we ſo imperfectly deſcribe, never ſhewed himſelf greater, than when he ſeized upon Diogenes. It muſt have been pleaſant to ſee this philſophic cynic in love, and given up to all the extravagance of his paſſion. Certain it is, however, that this Diogenes, who had no other habitation than a caſk, whoſe whole exterior announced

nounced only poverty and ſlovenlineſs, became enamoured of Laïs, the eſtabliſhed courtezan at Corinth; and it is ſingular, that this Laïs, who rated her favours at ſo high a price, and who even then would have a choice, not only bore with the diſguſting appearance of Diogenes, but granted to him gratis, that which ſhe ſold ſo dear to others.

DURAND.

DURAND, the ancient French poet, who lived about the year 1300, became enamoured of a lady of the houſe of the Counts de Balbi. Purſuing the cuſtom of thoſe times, Durand drew out the horoſcope of his miſtreſs: they ſay it ſhewed ſome wonderful tokens of her death, which nevertheleſs was not to happen till at the end of a very long life.

SOME time after the lady was attacked by a diſorder ſo violent, that ſhe was thought dead, and they were preparing for her interment when Durand received the melancholy intelligence. Whether it was that he forgot the horoſcope of his miſtreſs, or that he placed little dependance on all ſuch predictions, but he abandoned himſelf to a grief ſo violent, that he died.

In the mean time, his miſtreſs diſcovered ſigns of life as they were going to put her in the ground; ſhe was brought back to her houſe, and her health being perfectly eſtabliſhed, they could no longer conceal from her the death of Durand, and the cauſe of it.

Touched with a paſſion ſo lively, and which had terminated ſo fatally, ſhe took the veil, and died a nun, at the age of ſixty.

E.

EDGAR.

EDGAR, who ſucceeded Edwy, king of England, gave himſelf up to love with greater violence than his predeceſſor, but he was more fortunate. Captivated with the beauty of Editha, he forced the gates of the monaſtry, carried off his miſtreſs, and employed, ſay they, violence to gratify his paſſion. Saint Dunſtan then governed the realm. We find in the article of Edwy, that this prelate cruelly puniſhed a more inconſiderable fault; but Edgar was in ſome meaſure the work of Dunſtan's hand; he had greatly contributed to his elevation, and he proportioned

proportioned the puniſhment to his attachment for Prince Edgar, who was condemned not to wear the crown during ſeven years, for having violated a nun.

EDITHA was ſoon permitted to return to her monaſtry. The paſſion ſhe had inſpired, continued but an inſtant. The King going to the houſe of a gentleman of Andover, became deſperately in love with his daughter, who was a prodigy of beauty. As the Prince knew nothing could reſiſt the impetuoſity of his deſires, he declared his paſſion for this young beauty to the mother, and aſked permiſſion to paſs the next night with her. This requeſt was an order; it had been dangerous to diſobey; yet the lady was virtuous, and would not diſhonour her daughter.

To free herſelf from this embarraſſment, ſhe put into the King's bed a girl of her retinue, whoſe perſon was very agreeable. Edgar, the next morning, perceived the cheat, but was not diſpleaſed at it; he kept the young girl, and made her his miſtreſs.

THIS ſingular attachment was broken off by the marriage of the King. The beauty of Elfrida, daughter and ſole heireſs of the Duke of Devonſhire, was extolled throughout the kingdom. Edgar, inflamed by theſe reports, wiſhed

to know if Fame did not exaggerate. Ethelwold, his favourite, was charged with this commiſſion. He arrived at the Duke's upon pretence of buſineſs, ſaw the daughter, and found her ſo lovely; that, forgetting the intereſts of his King and friend, he conceived for her the moſt violent paſſion, and reſolved to ſacrifice every thing to it. He informed Edgar, that the beauty of Elfrida was far beneath what was reported, and had little difficulty in making him forget her. Some time after, Ethelwold repreſented to the King, that ſince Elfrida was not a proper match for him, he ſhould be happy himſelf to marry her, on account of her birth and fortune.

EDGAR, who loved his favourite, conſented to his wiſhes, made them known to the family of Elfrida, and the marriage was concluded.

HE endeavoured to conceal from the eyes of the King that beauty, the ſight of which alone would diſcover the impoſture, and ruin Ethelwold. For ſome time he ſucceeded; but as favourites muſt neceſſarily have enemies, ſome were found who informed Edgar of the truth. To prove the crime of his favourite, he gave Ethelwold notice that he ſhould make him a viſit at his caſtle, and that he wiſhed to be introduced to his bride.

ETHELWOLD,

ETHELWOLD, not daring to object, aſked only permiſſion to precede the King a few hours. He made uſe of this time to inform his wife of the arts he had uſed to obtain her, and entreated her to conceal a part of her attractions. "Elfrida "promiſed every thing, though ſhe was very far "from keeping her word: ſhe did not ſecretly "conſider herſelf obliged to Ethelwold, for a "paſſion which had deprived her of a crown; "and knowing the power of her charms, did "not yet deſpair of attaining to that rank ſhe "had loſt through the artifices of her huſband."

SHE appeared before the King with all that magnificence, taſte, and the deſire of pleaſing, could add to beauty; and raiſed, at once, in the heart of Edgar, the moſt lively paſſion for *her*, and implacable deſire of vengeance againſt Ethelwold. "He, however, diſſembled theſe "emotions, and with an unruffled countenance "engaged his old favourite to a party of hunting "in the Foreſt, where he killed him with his "own hand, and ſhortly after publicly married "Elfrida."

Anno 955.

EDWARD II.

EDWARD II. king of England, is diſtinguiſhed by the weakneſs of his character, and by his misfortunes. Incapable himſelf of governing, he wanted a favourite, and he had the ill-fortune to make choice of thoſe only who drew upon them the hatred of the nobility and people. Gavaſton, his firſt favourite, periſhed by the hand of the hangman. Hughes Deſpenſer, or Spenſer, who ſucceeded him, was not wiſer nor more moderate than Gavaſton, and occaſioned the moſt alarming troubles.

In the midſt of tumult, England, threatened with a war from France, where Charles-le-Bel then reigned, reſolved to ſend to that Prince his ſiſter Iſabella, queen of England, for the purpoſe of accommodating the differences. It was during the ſojourn of this Princeſs in France, that love formed that famous conſpiracy which wreſted from Edward both his throne and life. Among the number of barons, exiled on account of Spenſer, and who were retired to the court of France, was the young Roger Mortimer, a powerful baron upon the frontiers of Wales. Originally obliged, with others of his rank, to ſubmit

mit to the King, afterward condemned to death for high-treaſon, which puniſhment, through favour, had been changed to perpetual impriſonment, he had been ſo fortunate to eſcape to France; and there finding one of the greateſt noblemen of the fallen party, and one of the moſt incenſed againſt Spenſer, he with little difficulty obtained permiſſion to pay his court to Iſabella.

THE perſonal graces, and faſcinating addreſs of Mortimer, ſoon captivated the affections of this Princeſs: he became her confident and adviſer upon every occaſion, and making every day ſtill greater progreſs in her affections, ſhe at length ſacrificed to him every ſentiment of honour and fidelity due to her huſband. Deteſting a Prince ſhe had now injured, and never loved, ſhe entered into the conſpiracy of Mortimer, artfully made herſelf miſtreſs of young Edward, heir to the crown of England, and determined on the ruin of the King and his favourite.

ANOTHER author ſays, that the paſſion of the Queen for young Mortimer had commenced before her journey to France; that Spenſer had informed Edward of it, and that that Prince had conceived the greateſt diſlike to the Queen; that he had even deprived her of her right, in the earldom of Cornwall. It is at leaſt certain,

tain, that Edward was informed of the ſcandalous connection between the Queen and Mortimer, during her reſidence in France. He many times recalled her to England, and even employed the mediation of the Pope; in ſhort, the king of France, after having treated his ſiſter very coldly, was going, they ſay, to arreſt her and her lover, when ſhe took reſolution of eſcaping into Hainault. There ſhe entered into an alliance with the Count of Holland, by betrothing young Edward to the daughter of that Prince; and John of Hainault, brother of the Count, declaring himſelf Iſabella's knight, conducted her himſelf into England, at the head of three thouſand men.

THE people, who mortally hated the favourite, and deſpiſed the King, declared openly for the Queen. Spenſer ended his life, as Gavaſton had done, on the ſcaffold; and they made his father, a reſpectable nobleman, more than eighty years old, a partaker in his misfortune. Edward himſelf, wandering and fugitive, was arreſted and impriſoned in the caſtle of Kenelworth. Soon after, Iſabella called the parliament together. After having demonſtrated to them, that the King was incapable of governing, they ſolemnly depoſed him, and ſet young Edward upon the throne.

THE

THE misfortunes of the King did not end here. The Engliſh already began to lament his fate. The ſcandalous conduct of the Queen with Mortimer, did not a little contribute to open the eyes of the nation, upon the unjuſt proceedings of the two lovers. Mortimer, who perceived it, willing to be rid of every ſpecies of fear, gave orders to thoſe who had charge of the King, to deſtroy him. Their venal ſouls were too ready to execute the barbarous order: they ſeized the unfortunate Edward, and made him undergo a cruel death, by thruſting a heated iron through his entrails. Thus periſhed Edward II. the victim of his weakneſs toward his favourites, and ſtill more of the blind and infamous paſſion of the Queen for Mortimer. That nobleman, during ſome time, experienced the ſmiles of fortune, but they did not continue long after the infamy of the Queen was unravelled; it is not known with what truth, but common report ſays, that ſhe was pregnant, and by Mortimer. However, he was arreſted in the Queen's chamber, in ſpight of the tears and entreaties of that Princeſs, who cried—"My "ſon, my dear ſon, ſpare the amiable Mortimer!" He was hung, drawn, and quartered. The Queen was ſoon after diſpoſſeſſed of her authority,

rity, and confined in the caſtle of Keſing, where ſhe lived, it is ſaid, twenty-eight years.

Anno 1331.

EDWARD III.

IT is known, that the Order of the Garter in England, owed its origin and eſtabliſhment to the love of Edward III. king of England, for the Counteſs of Saliſbury.

MR. HUME appears inclined to give this origin to the order, on account of the manners of the age, which were entirely given to gallantry.

IT is ſaid, that Edward, at a ball, having taken up the blue garter of the Counteſs of Saliſbury, the circumſtance occaſioned a laugh among the courtiers, and much confuſed the lady. The King, who obſerved it, exclaimed—*Honni ſoit qui mal y penſe*; adding, with an oath, that thoſe who had ſcoffed at this garter, ſhould eſteem themſelves happy to carry one like it. In ſhort, having aſſembled his court, he inſtituted the Order of the Garter, under the auſpices of Saint George, the protector of England.

THE Knights, limited to the number of forty, receive from the hand of the King a cloak of violet-

violet-coloured velvet, lined with white damaſk, upon which there is a red croſs on a ſilver medal, and with it a blue enamelled garter, to be worn on the left leg, and for device, *Honni ſoit qui mal y penſe*. Mr. Hume ſays, that the Knights are only to the number of twenty-four, without reckoning the King.

EDWARD's paſſion for the Counteſs of Saliſbury commenced during the war againſt David Bruce, king of Scotland, whom the Engliſh monarch had dethroned. Bruce, by the help of ſuccours from France, had re-entered Scotland, made the moſt rapid progreſs there, and beſieged the caſtle, which contained the beautiful Counteſs, when Edward obliged him to retire. The king of England, charmed with the gallant reſiſtance made by the Counteſs, went to expreſs his acknowledgments, and, enchanted with her beauty, made this declaration—"Never did I "behold ſo noble, ſo gallant, nor ſo beautiful a "lady; the ſweetneſs, good-ſenſe, grace, and "high birth, which I find united in you, "ſtrikes me with ſuch wonder, that I find my-"ſelf vanquiſhed by a paſſion nothing can re-"move."

HER anſwer was noble, but threw the King into deſpair: he made new overtures, but obtained nothing. It was on account of this paſ-

ſion,

ſion, that Edward gave a grand ball, at which the Counteſs was, and where ſhe let fall her garter, as we have before mentioned. They pretend, however, that ſhe was at length weary of being ſo virtuous, and yielded to the paſſion of her King. It is added, that Lord Saliſbury, to revenge this injury, diſcovered to the king of France the ſecrets of the Engliſh, and named the French noblemen who had entered into ſecret treaties with Edward; upon which, they ſay, ſeveral Britons and Normans were executed at Paris.

To celebrate the beauty of the Counteſs of Saliſbury, it is pretended, that John II. king of France, who was become enamoured of her during his captivity, returned to England, attracted only by the charms of the Counteſs. This anecdote is now regarded as a fable. A romance, printed in 1680, is to be ſeen, entitled The Counteſs of Saliſbury.

EDWARD was not always ſo happy in his amours. When ſucceſs attended that Prince and his ſon in France, and the battles of Creſſy and Poictiers had carried their glory to the higheſt, the Engliſh admired and revered their King; but when fortune changed, that old age had overtook Edward, and the malady of the Prince of Wales had given an opportunity to the French

French to repair their loſſes, the Engliſh monarch did not find in his people the ſame obedience.

THIS Prince, in an advanced age, being a widower, became enamoured of Alix Pierce, a woman of wit and merit. When love takes poſſeſſion of an old man, he exerciſes his dominion over him with more violence than on a young one. Thus it happened to Edward. He repaid the favours of his miſtreſs, by granting her an abſolute authority. The people were irritated; and that King, who had the ambition to invade the crown of France, and had more than once reaſon to hope for ſucceſs, now ſaw himſelf obliged to give up his miſtreſs to content the Parliament.

THIS Alix Pierce, or Peters, was maid of honour to the late Queen. She is accuſed of going into the courts of juſtice, of ſitting upon the tribunal with the judges, and of dictating their judgments. They likewiſe reproached her with ſitting with the King in his chamber, whilſt the courtiers attended at the door for admittance. The paſſion of Edward occaſioned a ſuperb cavalcade. The beautiful Alix was created *Lady of the Sun*. The monarch and his miſtreſs were mounted upon a triumphant car; ſeveral ladies of the higheſt quality followed, each leading their

their knight. They proceeded to one of the principal gates of the city, and there began a tournament, which laſted ſeven days.

AFTER the death of the Prince of Wales, Alix was recalled to court, and recovered the moſt unbounded empire over the mind of Edward. When that Prince drew near his end, Alix ſuffered only thoſe to enter his apartment who was in her intereſt. She ſeized upon the moſt valuable effects; and, little ſenſible of the loſs of a King who had tenderly loved her, ſhe forced from his finger, even before his death, a ring which he wore.

Anno 1377.

EDWARD IV.

RICHARD NEVIL, Earl of Warwick, had dethroned Henry VI. king of England, to place the crown upon the head of the Duke of York, who took the name of Edward IV. By this revolution, the party of the *Red Roſe*, which was that of the houſe of Lancaſter, was overcome by the *White Roſe*, who held for the Duke of York, and nothing appeared to threaten the quiet of the new King. He was ſenſible that he was indebted for his ſucceſs to the Earl of Warwick;

wick; and to teſtify his gratitude, empowered him to negotiate his marriage with Bonne de Savoie, ſiſter of the queen of France. The conditions were agreed to, and waited only for the ſignature of Edward: but love overthrew all.

THE King went to hunt near Grafton, and had called at Lord Rivers's, to pay his compliments to his wife—— She had her daughter with her, who being widow of Sir John Gray, killed in the ſervice of Henry VI. at the ſecond battle of Saint Alban's, had loſt a part of her effects in the confiſcation of thoſe of her huſband.

THE young widow, willing to profit by ſo favourable an opportunity to recover what ſhe had loſt, took occaſion, during this viſit, to ſolicit the King; and obtained her requeſt.

THE King alſo thought himſelf entitled to aſk ſomething. "I do not eſteem myſelf enough, (replied the widow) for to believe that I de-"ſerve to be Queen; but I do not rate myſelf "ſo very low, as to become your Miſtreſs. I "can only love a Huſband; ſince you cannot "be that, reſt ſatisfied that I honour you as my "King, and look up to you with all the gra-"titude due to a benefactor." She enflamed his paſſion by her remonſtrances to ſubdue it, at a time when ſhe ſaw he was too much enamoured

amoured to profit by thoſe leſſons, and carried things ſo far by this artifice, that he reſolved to marry her, notwithſtanding the engagements he had beſide, and in ſpight of every effort the Ducheſs of York, his mother, made to divert him from it. They repreſented to him the impediments, which only ſerved to irritate his paſſion; and he at length eſpouſed Lady Gray.

FROM this moment, having no other will but that of his Queen, this Prince left her abſolute miſtreſs of all honours and preferments. The father of the Queen was made high-conſtable and treaſurer of the realm; places were only diſtributed by favour.

THE Earl of Warwick was no ſooner appriſed of the change effected by love, than he believed they had played upon him, deſigning to make him the laugh of all Europe. The King, at leaſt, ought to have moderated this fiery and impetuous ſpirit; but he did every thing contrary. Warwick then abandoned himſelf to choler, and thought of nothing but how to take a ſignal and public revenge for the affront that had been put upon him. Another motive, it is ſaid, ſtimulated him; the King had injured a lady of his family. However it was, taking advantage of the malcontents of the Engliſh, on account of the marriage of Edward, the Earl reſolved

reſolved to drive him from that throne upon which he had placed him.

He ſoon engaged in his intereſt the Duke of Clarence, the King's brother, by dazzling him with the luſtre of a crown. He had leſs trouble to win him, as he was his ſon-in-law. But he committed a great error, which deſtroyed all his meaſures. He gave one of his daughters in marriage to the Prince of Wales, ſon of Henry VI. In the mean while, the rebellion in the north of England broke out; Edward's generals having been vanquiſhed, the malcontents inſiſted upon having the Earl of Rivers, and John Woodville his ſon, delivered up to them at Grafton; and they periſhed upon a ſcaffold.

A short time after, Edward himſelf was made priſoner. The war then appeared almoſt at an end; but this Prince had the good fortune to eſcape from his priſon, to put himſelf at the head of his troops, and to obtain a complete victory over the rebels. Warwick and the Duke of Clarence withdrew into France; there they found Margaret of Anjou, wife of the unfortunate Henry VI. who was there ſoliciting ſuccours. Their common misfortunes having united them, they returned to England, with the aſſiſtance Louis XI. had granted them.

The friends of Warwick had ſo well prepared every

every thing, that Edward ſaw himſelf deſerted by his own troops; and, too happy to eſcape, repaired to Lynne, where he found veſſels that tranſported him to Holland, with the Duke of Glouceſter, his brother. Warwick, now maſter of the kingdom, repaired to London, took Henry VI. from his priſon, and reſtored to him a crown he had raviſhed from him.

THIS unexpected good fortune was only momentary for this unhappy Prince. The Earl of Warwick was deceived, doubtleſs by the Duke of Clarence, who could not, without indignation, ſee the marriage of his ſiſter-in-law with the Prince of Wales.

EDWARD, aſſured of ſucceſs, paſſed into England, with the ſmall ſuccours he had obtained from the Duke of Burgundy.

HE met with no oppoſition. At London they opened the gates to him, without any bloodſhed. His brother, the Duke of Clarence, no longer willing to diſſemble, went over to his ſide with twelve thouſand men. A battle, which was fought between Saint Alban's and London, decided the difference. Warwick was killed in it, and with him his brother.

THERE ſtill remained a conſiderable party againſt Edward, headed by the Prince of Wales and Margaret D'Anjou his mother. Edward, having

having given them battle at Tewkſbury, bore off a complete victory. Hiſtorians differ concerning the manner in which the Prince of Wales periſhed. The one pretends that he was killed in the action; others maintain that, having been made priſoner, he was, by order of the King, ſtabbed in cold blood; and that the Duke of Glouceſter, who went immediately to London, plunged into the boſom of Henry VI. the dagger yet ſtained with the blood of his ſon.

PHILIP DE COMINES pretends, that love contributed to open the gates of London to Edward. He ſays, that ſeveral of the rich citizen's wives, with whom he (king Edward) had been particularly connected, gained over to his intereſts their huſbands and relations.

THE widow Gray, who cauſed all theſe revolutions, was herſelf the offspring of love.

JACQUELINE of Luxembourgh, her mother, after the death of the Duke of Bedford her firſt huſband, ſacrificed her pride to her affection, and eſpouſed, in her ſecond marrriage, Sir Richard Wideville, a private gentleman, afterward created Earl Rivers. It was from this marriage, formed by love, that the beautiful and charming Elizabeth was born, who eſpouſed Sir John Gray, of Groby, and who, as much through her beauty as addreſs, aſcended the throne.

It is ſingular, that although this Princeſs had enjoyed the title of queen, without the leaſt oppoſition, and, that ſhe had by Edward children, the legitimacy of which none appeared to doubt, nevertheleſs, after the death of the King her huſband, the Duke of Glouceſter, overcome by his unlimited ambition, and determined to uſurp the crown at any price, bethought himſelf of eſtabliſhing it as a certain fact, "That Ed-"ward, before having eſpouſed Elizabeth Gray, "had been enamoured of Eleanor Talbot, "daughter of the Earl of Shrewſbury; and, "that finding an invincible obſtacle in her virtue, "he had, to ſatisfy his deſires, conſented to a "clandeſtine marriage, celebrated without wit-"neſſes, by Stillington, Biſhop of Bath, who had "afterward diſcloſed the ſecret." From this the Duke inferred, that the childen of Edward and Elizabeth Gray were illegitimate. However it was, the two ſons of Edward were ſacrificed to the ambition of the Duke of Glouceſter, who aſcended the throne under the name of Richard III.

It is ſingular, that this Prince, to prove his right to the crown, was not aſhamed to advance, and ſupport, that the Ducheſs of York his mother, led the moſt diſorderly life; that Edward IV. his brother, was the fruit of the unlawful amours

amours of that Princeſs; and that himſelf alone was the ſon of the Duke of York, which he pretended to prove by the perfect reſemblance he bore of his father.

THIS prince at length, as cruel as ambitious, reſolved on the overthrow of Lord Haſtings, one of the principal noblemen of the realm, who would not enter into his criminal views, and cauſed him to be maſſacred, under the pretence that he had conceived a paſſion for Jane Shore, ſince the death of Edward, to whom ſhe had been miſtreſs; and that this woman employed magic againſt him, the Duke of Glouceſter. It was true that Lord Haſtings loved Jane Shore, but not that ſhe was capable of forming a wicked deſign; ſhe was weak enough to yield to the ardent deſires of Edward, who was too amiable to experience much reſiſtance from the fair-ſex, but ſhe had obliterated this weakneſs by all the other virtues that could render a woman charming. Notwithſtanding the high ſtation of her accuſer, ſhe could only be condemned for her weakneſs towards Edward.

Anno 1483.

EDWY.

EDWY was no more than ſixteen or ſeventeen years of age, when he ſucceeded Edred, his uncle, in the kingdom of England. It was unfortunately an age when the paſſions, and above all, that of love, is felt with violence. The young Prince experienced this in the moſt ſevere manner. There was at the court a princeſs of royal blood named Elgiva; her youth and beauty made the moſt lively impreſſion on the ſuſceptible heart of Edwy; but a conſiderable obſtacle oppoſed itſelf to the happineſs of the two lovers; this was the degree of relationſhip in which they ſtood to each other: beſide the miniſters who oppoſed, it the prelates of the realm abſolutely refuſed their conſent. Edwy was a monarch, young, and paſſionately in love; he got over all conſiderations, and married Elgiva, but paid very dear for this happineſs.

THE famous Saint Dunſtan, who had been abſolute miniſter under Edred, and who had acquired over the clergy and monks the greateſt authority, reſolved to avenge the injury done the church by Edwy. Whether it was that this Prince would not liſten to any repreſentations, or

or that the Saint did not think it expedient to employ gentler means, but he uſed the utmoſt ſeverity. The day of the coronation, the young Prince, ever abſorbed by his paſſion, ſecretly withdrew from the aſſembly to ſeek his beloved Elgiva. Saint Dunſtan, who obſerved the abſence of the King, and gueſſed at the motive, accompanied by Odon, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, forcibly entered the King's apartment, tore him from the arms of his wife, and, overwhelming him with the bittereſt reproaches, forced him to return to the aſſembly of the nobles. It muſt be allowed, that this proceeding of the Saint was too violent, Edwy thought ſo, and believed he had a right to puniſh the boldneſs of a ſubject, who had ſo eſſentially offended him. Dunſtan was obliged to render an account of the adminiſtration of the finances he had directed under the reign of Edred. This account was probably examined with too ſcrupulous an eye, abuſes and miſdemeanors were diſcovered, and the Saint was baniſhed the realm.

THIS exile drew upon Edwy the hatred of the clergy and monks, which he felt with the greateſt ſeverity. The Queen was the firſt victim; torn from the palace by a troop of ſoldiers, by order of the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, ſhe was

carried to Ireland; after having had her face burned with a hot iron, to deſtroy that beauty which was the cauſe of all the troubles. Nevertheleſs, this unfortunate Princeſs got her wounds ſo perfectly healed, that the leaſt trace of them could not be perceived.

She was haſtening into England, to rejoin her lover, when ſhe was ſeized upon by Odon, who, to end all diſputes, had the barbarity to cut the ham-ſtrings of the Princeſs, who died a few days after.

The unfortunate Edwy, though king, was forced to devour his grief in ſilence, ſo great was the veneration of the people, in thoſe times, for the eccleſiaſtics. It might have been imagined, that the death of Elgiva would have appeaſed the King's enemies; but Dunſtan was ſtill in exile, and his partizans reſolved to avenge him in a more ſignal manner. The people, incited by the monks, revolted, placed the crown upon the head of Edgar, the youngeſt of Edwy's brothers, and drove their lawful monarch from the throne. This revolt was approved, and canonized by Saint Dunſtan, who then returned to England, and declared loudly for Edgar. Edwy, baniſhed, excommunicated, and perſecuted with the greateſt rigour, at length died, and left Edgar

in

in quiet poſſeſſion of a kingdom, which fanaticiſm had gained him. *Tantæ ne animis cœleſtibus iræ!*

Anno 955.

EGINHART.

EGINHART, chaplain and ſecretary to the emperor Charlemagne, had the *boldneſs* to entertain a paſſion for Emma, the daughter of his maſter, and the *good-fortune* to perceive, that he was ſo far diſtinguiſhed by the Princeſs, as to give him hopes. This reciprocal paſſion, which was only expreſſed by the language of the eyes, did not content the two lovers, who were deſirous of a favourable opportunity to explain it more fully; but this was difficult. Eginhart reſolved, however, to riſque every thing. He ſtole, during the night, to the apartment of Emma, rapped ſoftly at the door, and was admitted as a meſſenger from the Emperor. As a man of gallantry, he took advantage of the opportunity; the Princeſs was offended, and threatened; but her lover was happy enough to appeaſe her, and there was every reaſon to believe the beſt intelligence ſubſiſted between them, when day-break informed them they muſt part. This moment was a painful one, but it was nothing in com-

pariſon to the embarraſſment in which they found themſelves; Eginhart perceived that, during the night, there had been a great fall of ſnow: what was to be done? The traces of his foot-ſteps would diſcover the myſtery, and make it appear that a man had left the apartment of the Princeſs. It is obſerved, that in ſuch caſes the women have more contrivance than the men; and it cannot be doubted, if we judge from the conduct of Emma. She took her lover upon her ſhoulders, and thus carried him through the court he muſt have traverſed; knowing that the print of a woman's feet could not occaſion ſuſpicion.

It ſo happened, that Charlemagne, who had not ſlept that night, had ariſen early, and from the window ſaw Emma charged with her burden, but took no notice. Eginhart did not think himſelf diſcovered; but fearing that ſooner or later it would be ſo, the next day he threw himſelf at the feet of the Emperor, and aſked permiſſion to retire, alledging, that his long ſervices had not been recompenſed. Charlemagne replied, that he would think of it, and in a few days let him know his intentions. During this interval he aſſembled his council, and, after having declared the crime of his ſecretary, aſked the advice of his miniſters. The caſe was embarraſſing; and the more ſo, as the Prince had not,

not, in any manner, made his ſentiments known. Some voted an exemplary puniſhment, to deter all men in future from the like preſumption; others referred it to the prudence of the Emperor. He ſurpriſed every one, by declaring, that his intention was to marry Eginhart to the Princeſs, adding, "That it would be eaſier for "him to raiſe Eginhart to a ſituation in which "he might be worthy his daughter, than to pub-"liſh her imprudence." Soon after, he ſummoned the culprit before the council, where the Prince ſaid to him, "To reward your long "ſervices, I will give you my daughter, that "porter, who ſo graciouſly carried you upon her "back." The marriage was quickly celebrated, and Emma was portioned off as the daughter of a great prince.

THIS anecdote, true or falſe, has been related in Flemiſh verſe by Jacob Catz, grand penſioner of Holland, and tranſlated into Latin verſe by Gaſpard Burlée.

Anno 800.

ELEANOR.

LOUIS VII. king of France, had married Eleanor, or Alienor, daughter and heireſs of

William IX. duke of Guyenne; ſo that this Princeſs brought her huſband beauty, (for ſhe was one of the handſomeſt women of the realm) and two fine provinces, Guyenne and Poitou. Unfortunately, Eleanor was not ſo prudent as handſome; and Louis diſcovered how ſenſible he was to the paſſion of jealouſy.

THIS Prince, going into Paleſtine, took the Queen with him; and, after her return, ſays an hiſtorian, diſſolved his marriage with Eleanor under pretext of conſanguinity; but in truth, to puniſh that Queen for a ſuſpected commerce ſhe had had in the Eaſt, with a Turk named Saladin, and other irregularities, too public not to cauſe ſcandal, and merit puniſhment.

THIS was her (ſays the author of the Annals of Gallantry) who charmed the courage of the brave Saladin, chief of the Saracen army; and who, having declared to him that ſhe could not believe his proteſtations of love but in her own tongue, forced that great warrior, by a ſurpriſing effect of love, to learn the French language in fifteen days.

BRANTOME, having ſpoken of another princeſs, ſays, "I muſt obſerve, that our queen "Eleanor, Dutcheſs of Guyenne, who accompa-"nied the King her huſband beyond ſea to the "Holy War, to exerciſe herſelf in horſeman-"ſhip,

" ſhip, and the manners of war, neglected the care " of her honour ſo far, that ſhe had connections " with the Saracens, for which the King di- " vorced her."

ANOTHER hiſtorian pretends, that Louis, being arrived at Antioche, was earneſtly preſſed by Raimond de Poitiers, paternal-uncle of the Queen, to aſſiſt him in driving out the Turks, who encompaſſed him; and Queen Eleanor, on this account, joined her earneſt entreaties: but the intereſt of the Prince her uncle was not the ſole motive that ſtimulated her. It is ſaid, this Princeſs, not over ſcrupulous on her conduct, and become enamoured of a young Turk, lately baptiſed, and called Saladin, could not bear the thoughts of being ſeparated from him. She wiſhed much, while the King marched againſt the enemies of her uncle, that he would leave her at Antioche. The King, (who began to ſuſpect ſomething of this unworthy connection) to avoid the conſequences, could not find any other remedy than to oblige her to leave the city by night, and to take the route of Jeruſalem.

FATHER DANIEL is the only one who does not ſpeak of Saladin; and he maintains, that it was Prince Raimond, uncle of the Queen, who was beloved by that Princeſs; " That the King, " on this ſubject, had more than ſuſpicion. It

" is ſurpriſing, (continues he) that a queen of " France ſhould come ſo far, and for devotion's " ſake, and encounter ſo many dangers, thus to " diſhonour herſelf and her huſband."

Louis was obliged to uſe artifice to remove the Queen from Antioche; the deſign of Raimond being to oblige the King to leave the Princeſs, while he went to encounter the Infidels.

Be it as it might, it is certain, that it was the miſconduct of Eleanor which forced Louis to divorce her; which divorce, ſay they, was ſtill more agreeable to the Queen than her huſband, whom ſhe did not love. Whilſt at Antioche, ſhe told Raimond, ridiculing Louis, that ſhe had not married a *king*, but a *monk*. The greateſt misfortune was, that the King, in divorcing Eleanor, had ſo little policy, as to give back the provinces that ſhe had brought him in dower: —this was not done by Marcus Aurelius in the ſame caſe. Theſe provinces were Guyenne and Poitou. Louis would not have committed ſo groſs an error as the reſtoring them, had Suger his miniſter been alive. The generality of people thought this ſcrupulous reſtitution ſtrange; and the men of honour were aſtoniſhed to ſee Henry eſpouſe this Princeſs, whoſe lewdneſs was ſo public, that the King did not think there was a ſimple

a ſimple knight had been ſo mean as to bring this diſhonour on his family.

By this marriage, which was concluded a few months after the divorce, two fine provinces paſſed into the hands of the enemy of France; and it was this probably determined Henry II. king of England, to overlook theſe great blemiſhes in the character of Eleanor. If we believe Mezery, this Princeſs, whoſe paſſions were very violent, particularly thoſe of love and ambition, preferred Henry becauſe he was young, ardent, and capable of ſatisfying all her deſires. The ſame hiſtorian adds, "This "woman, deeply ſkilled in every kind of wicked-"neſs, lived more than eighty years, occaſioned "a war which laſted more than ſixty, and en-"gendered between France and England, a hatred "which continued more than three centuries;" ſo that, with juſtice, might be applied to her what the Greek poet ſays of the wife of Menelaus, "That, for a *woman*, they ſuffered the calamities "of ſword and fire, not *ten* years, but *four* "*hundred*."

EPERNON (Mademoiselle d')

LOVE, who is ordinarily the cauſe of many follies, and who often occaſions us to commit the moſt atrocious crimes, probably inſured the eternal happineſs of Mademoiſelle D'Epernon, ſiſter of the laſt Duke de Candale, and granddaughter of the celebrated Duke D'Epernon, favourite of Henry III. She was deſperately in love with the Chevalier de Fieſque, a gentleman who poſſeſſed little or no fortune. The deſire of Mademoiſelle D'Epernon, was to enrich her lover by marrying him: but Providence otherwiſe diſpoſed it. The Chevalier de Fieſque was killed at the ſiege of Mardick; and Mademoiſelle D'Epernon, his miſtreſs, finding nothing in the world that could compenſate her loſs, ſought conſolation in a convent of Carmelites, where ſhe took the veil, in ſpite of the remonſtrances of her relations, and thoſe of the Queen-dowager, who deſigned a great alliance for her. The author who furniſhes this anecdote, adds—"We cannot doubt, bnt that the "Carmelites would have her life written, in which "would be found as many examples of humility "and mortification, as there was of ambition, "pride,

" pride, and preſumption in that of the Duke " her grandfather."

ESTHER.

WHEN Nebuchodonoſor, king of Babylon, had conquered Judea, and deſtroyed Jeruſalem, he made almoſt all the Jews captive. Some time after, a party of theſe captives were tranſferred to Perſia, where, in the end, ſeveral Jewiſh families were ſettled to their entire ſatisfaction. Of this number was one named Mordecai, of the tribe of Benjamin, and a deſcendant of Kiſh, the father of Saul. Upon the death of his brother, he had taken charge of the education of his niece Eſther.

SHE had attained to the age of fourteen or fifteen, when Ahaſuerus reigned in the provinces of Perſia, which he had re-taken from Nebuchodonoſor. Though Nature had laviſhed all her favours upon this young Jeweſs, ſhe was far from thinking this beauty would procure her the title of queen, and put her in a ſituation to preſerve her people..

VASTHI, the wife of Ahaſuerus, merited this title by her birth and beauty; but having had the misfortune to diſpleaſe the King, ſhe was diſgraced

diſgraced without recall. To replace Vaſthi, Ahaſuerus ordered the moſt beautiful and accompliſhed young virgins of the realm to be brought to his palace. This command was executed, and Eſther was among thoſe who were choſen. "The King was captivated the "moment ſhe appeared: he was no longer "maſter of his heart, which the firſt glance "had captivated."

ESTHER, in becoming Queen, had not informed the King ſhe was a Jeweſs; and, conſequently, had not ſpoken of her uncle Mordecai: he, however, had followed her in ſecret, and continued to guide her by his advice, which he had the addreſs to convey to her. It was through this channel, he made a diſcovery to Ahaſuerus of a conſpiracy formed againſt his life.—An eſſential ſervice, which was but poorly recompenſed.

TILL this moment, every thing had ſucceeded beyond the expectations of Mordecai and his niece; but they ſoon found themſelves at the brink of a precipice. Haman, the firſt miniſter of Ahaſuerus, enjoyed ſo high a degree of favour, that all the Perſians, from the nobility to the common people, bowed the knee before him: Mordecai alone refuſed to pay this act of ſubmiſſion, becauſe the Jewiſh laws forbid the adoration

adoration to any created thing. This was ſufficient to irritate the haughty Haman. The life of Mordecai *alone*, ſeemed too trifling a reparation for the injury; he reſolved that *all* the Jews ſhould periſh. The King, who could not refuſe any thing to his favourite, cauſed an edict to be publiſhed, by which he commanded all the Jews, without diſtinction, to be maſſacred on an appointed day. As for Mordecai, Haman reſerved him for a more exemplary puniſhment. He cauſed a gibbet to be erected, more than fifty cubits in height, upon which he deſigned to hang him. The Almighty alone was able to avert this ſtorm; it was his pleaſure to do it, and to make the beauty of Eſther, and the King's paſſion for her, the inſtrument.

HER uncle Mordecai took care to inform her of the danger that threatened her people: She ſurely would not heſitate to employ her power to ſave the Jews; but, with her beſt intentions, ſhe was not able to approach the King, nor to ſpeak to him, without receiving permiſſion. This was a law that could not be infringed without incurring the danger of death. There was not, however, time to demur; ſhe muſt either ſuffer the Jews to periſh, or expoſe her own life. Eſther was ſo generous as to prefer the latter; and appeared before the King.

King. The ſplendor of the throne, and the danger to which ſhe expoſed herſelf, made ſuch an impreſſion on her, that ſhe ſwooned in the arms of her women. This intereſting ſituation, in a lovely woman, touched the heart of Ahaſuerus. He deſcended from his throne, endeavoured by his careſſes to revive her, and, when her ſenſes returned, ſaid with tranſport, "What is it you wiſh of the King your huſ-"band, amiable Queen? And muſt the object "of your deſires coſt you ſo much pain, and "me ſuch alarms? Do you aſk of me only the "half of my kingdom: ſpeak with confidence: "you have a right to demand every thing, and "are ſure of obtaining it."

THIS ſeemed the moment to ſpeak; but Eſther, who was guided by the commands of her God, at that time contented herſelf with requeſting the King to ſup in her apartments with Haman. Neither was it at this entertainment that Ahaſuerus was able to gueſs at the wiſhes of his beloved Eſther. At length, at a ſecond banquet, this Princeſs diſcovered to the King that ſhe was a Jeweſs, and condemned to periſh with an innocent people, who had the misfortune to diſpleaſe the haughty Haman: ſhe added, that this miniſter was plotting a crime ſtill greater, as it would touch the life of the King.

Ahaſuerus

Ahaſuerus could not believe, that from her lips there could be any deceit. He immediately commanded the perfidious Haman to be hung on the gibbet he had deſigned for Mordecai; his family were condemned to die; his effects were given to Eſther; Mordecai took his place in the miniſtry and favour of the King; the Edict againſt the Jews was revoked; and this people enjoyed the greateſt indulgencies during the reign of Ahaſuerus.

Anno of the world 3455.

ETHELBERT.

THE eſtabliſhment of Chriſtianity in the kingdom of Kent, was, in part, owing to a woman. Ethelbert, who reigned in that country, married Bertha, daughter of Caribert, king of Paris. This Princeſs was a Chriſtian; and one of the preliminaries to her marriage was, the liberty of exerciſing her religion. She made herſelf ſo greatly beloved by her huſband, and adored by his ſubjects, that they could not be perſuaded but that the religion of ſo amiable a Queen was the true one. The minds of the people were thus diſpoſed, when Auguſtine was ſent by Pope Gregory to preach the goſpel in the kingdom

dom of Kent. He received the moſt gracious welcome; and was not there long before he made a conſiderable progreſs.

THE death of Ethelbert deſtroyed the works of the pious miſſionary, and *Love* recalled idolatry. Eadbald, the ſon and ſucceſſor of Ethelbert, entertained a paſſion for his mother-in-law; and, as Chriſtianity would not allow this inceſtuous commerce, the Prince rather preferred to renounce his religion than his love. The people, faithful imitators of thoſe who govern them, returned to their falſe gods; the biſhops were driven out of the kingdom; and it was not till after ſeveral years that Eadbald, probably diſguſted with his mother-in-law, or ſtruck by a miracle, (performed, ſay they, by Laurentius, ſucceſſor to Auguſtine) having abjured his paſſion, again embraced Chriſtianity.—Anno 630.

ETULA.

PLEURATE, king of Illyria, left two ſons by his wife Euridice. The eldeſt named Gentius, and the youngeſt Plator. Their father, during his life, had agreed upon the marriage of Plator with Etula or Eſteva, daughter of the king of Dardania, who paſſed for a prodigy of beauty. The inclinations of Plator and Etula had

had correſponded with the deſigns of their parents; they tenderly loved each other, and anxiouſly awaited the moment that was to unite them.

THE death of Pleurate deſtroyed theſe ſchemes of happineſs, and Love ſevered thoſe bands he had himſelf formed. Gentius, the brother of Plator, having ſeen the beautiful Dardanian Princeſs, had conceived for her the moſt violent paſſion; but the fear of diſpleaſing his father, reſtrained his deſires during the life of the King. Upon the death of Pleurate, he openly avowed his love. Plator, who would not give up the object he adored, ſtill remained an obſtacle. Gentius did not heſitate to commit a crime to attain his happineſs: he killed his brother; and, by this fraticide, became the tranquil poſſeſſor of the crown of Illyria, and the Princeſs Etula. He did not, however, long enjoy either the one or the other. Having had the imprudence to eſpouſe the cauſe of Perſes, king of Macedonia, againſt the Romans, he had not courage to ſupport it. The ſight of the Pretor Anicius made him tremble. He baſely ſurrendered himſelf, and was conducted, with his family, to Rome, to adorn the triumph of his conqueror.

Anno of Rome 585.

EUPHEMIUS.

UNDER the empire of Michael the Stammerer at Conſtantinople, Sicily, by a ſingular adventure, came into the poſſeſſion of the Saracens. An officer, named Euphemius, belonging to the troops of the empire, which were in Sicily, became enamoured of a nun, whom he had inſpired with an equal flame. The difficulties attending this paſſion irritated and encreaſed it. Love admits of no obſtacles; Euphemius carried off the nun.

THE brothers of the convent referred their complaints to Conſtantinople. Although the Emperor Michael was in the ſame caſe as Euphemius, he ſent orders to the governor of Sicily to arreſt and to puniſh him. This order having been made public before it was executed, Euphemius, who was greatly beloved among the troops, won over a great part to his intereſt; and, when they attempted to ſeize him, was found too formidable. This revolt left no room for Euphemius, and thoſe who had eſpouſed his cauſe, to hope for pardon; and, at the ſame time, they were not ſufficiently ſtrong to ſupport themſelves againſt the oppoſite party. In this extremity, paſſing over into Africa, Euphemius offered Eucio to deliver Sicily up

to

to him, upon condition, that he ſhould aſſiſt in getting him proclaimed emperor. The propoſal was too advantageous to be refuſed. Euphemius was ſupplied with a fleet well manned. He had, at firſt, the greateſt ſucceſs; almoſt all the cities of Sicily received him with open gates, and acknowledged him their emperor. The city of Syracuſe alone made ſome oppoſition. As the new Prince had good intelligence from thence, he thought he had better enter into a negociation with the inhabitants, than to employ force. Two of the principal men of the city came out to treat with him. In accoſting him, they ſaluted him as emperor; but, as he advanced to embrace them, one of the two ſtruck off his head with one ſtroke of a ſabre. His death did not ſave Sicily; the Saracens, being the ſtrongeſt, ſeized upon the whole iſle, without experiencing much reſiſtance. They extended their conqueſts even to the continent of Italy.

Anno 288.

EURIPIDES.

EURIPIDES, the tragic-poet, has left a reputation which can never be forgotten. He was the contemporary and the rival of Sophocles; and they were two champions worthy to diſpute the victory. In the tragedies of Euripides we find many

many ſarcaſms launched againſt the fair-ſex, by which he merited the title of an enemy to the women. It is ſuſpected that he had his reaſons for treating this lovely part of the human ſpecies ſo ill. Some believe that his auſterity and indifference was the cauſe of it; others maintain, and with more reaſon, that this celebrated poet ſought to avenge himſelf of thoſe women by whom he had ſuffered. It is certain, that having married one named Chœrina, he was obliged to divorce her, on account of her misconduct. This firſt misfortune did not prove a warning to Euripides; he reſolved once again to hazard the event, and venture upon a ſecond wife. This new tye was at leaſt as unfortunate as the former. Euripides was convinced with his own eyes, of his hopeleſs caſe; for they pretend that he detected one of the comedians, who occupied his place in her bed. This anecdote made a noiſe; the comic-poets diverted themſelves at the expence of Euripides, ſo far as to make him leave Athens. It remains to be determined, but Euripides alone could give us the information, whether his domeſtic uneaſineſſes were ballanced by his celebrity as a poet. It had then been the compenſation of the good and evil of this life.

80 Olymp.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.